



Women
Journalists
Without
Chains

Journalism in Yemen

A Continuous Hemorrhage

JANUARY 2026





Journalism in Yemen: 1,847 Violations in Ten Years, 115 in 2025 Including 32 Killings – A Continuous Hemorrhage

Since 2014, press and media freedoms in Yemen have undergone an unprecedented and steep decline. An ongoing armed conflict has produced extreme political, security, and economic instability, while legal and institutional safeguards for journalists and media entities have been largely absent.

In late 2014, Houthi forces toppled the legitimate authorities and seized control of state institutions in Sana'a, subsequently extending their military operations to multiple governorates.

The conflict intensified in March 2015 with the intervention of a Saudi Arabia- and United Arab Emirates-led coalition, which launched airstrikes against Houthi positions. This escalation deepened the humanitarian crisis, severely deteriorated conditions nationwide, and had disastrous consequences for the media landscape.

As a result, Yemen's press has entered one of its most violent and bleak periods in decades. Journalists have been targeted by all parties and treated as adversaries, while strict controls on press freedom and the circulation of information have been imposed. Concurrently, hate speech, incitement, and disinformation have spread widely.

Annual monitoring by Women Journalists Without Chains indicates that at least 84 journalists and media workers have been killed, and total violations have reached 1,847 since 2014. These abuses include the closure and raiding of numerous outlets, confiscation of equipment and property, arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, unlawful prosecutions, suspension of salaries, blocking of websites, and other forms of repression.

In its 2025 annual assessment, the organization documented 115 violations, among them 32 killings, and characterized these abuses as grave violations that constitute war crimes under international humanitarian law.

Distribution of Violations Against Journalists

The following chart illustrates the types of violations recorded against journalists and



media institutions. Killings and arrests/detentions make up the majority, while other forms of harassment, intimidation, and restrictions highlight the breadth of threats faced. This distribution underscores both the severity and diversity of the violations.



Violations by Perpetrators

Press freedom violations in Yemen during 2025 were not only widespread but also perpetrated by a diverse range of actors. According to Women Journalists Without Chains, government-aligned military and security forces accounted for the largest share of abuses, followed closely by Israeli forces and the Houthi group. Other violations were attributed to the Southern Transitional Council, unidentified assailants, influential figures including religious leaders, and even Saudi Arabia. This distribution



underscores the systemic nature of the threats facing journalists, with multiple parties contributing to an environment of intimidation, violence, and suppression of independent reporting.



Women Journalists Without Chains noted that its 2025 annual review of press freedom in Yemen is being released amid a heightened need to capture violations, map overarching trends shaping the media landscape, and evaluate how all parties align with international norms on freedom of opinion and expression as enshrined in global conventions protecting journalists.

The organization added that the report seeks to offer a detailed overview of recurring violations and the professional and security conditions faced by journalists, while



clearly attributing responsibility. It also forms part of a sustained effort to advance transparency and media freedom in Yemen through the development of a rigorously verified and credible data set, intended to support researchers as well as regional and international human rights institutions working on freedom of expression, and to contribute to improving press and media conditions nationwide.

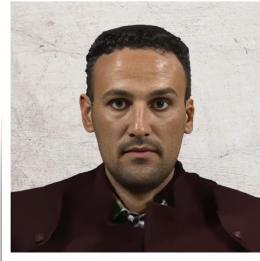
Arrest and Abduction:



Oras Al-Aryani



Majed Zaid



Shaker Naseh



Al-Haifi



Waheed Al-Soufi



Adel Al-Nuzaili



Waleed Ghaleb

Women Journalists Without Chains reported that in **2025** it documented **29** incidents of arrest, abduction, and detention, representing **27.26%** of all violations against journalists. The organization confirmed that **13** journalists remain imprisoned by different parties, including **11** held by the Houthi group, one detained by the Southern Transitional Council, and another under Saudi custody.

Among those detained, Nabil AlSeddawi has been held by the Houthis since April **2025** on charges of espionage for the Arab Coalition. Journalist Naseh Shaker has been imprisoned in Aden since November **2023** by the Security Belt Forces of the Southern Transitional Council, following his arrest while traveling to Beirut for a training program. He faces accusations of spreading false information, inciting unrest, and



providing media support to the Houthis.

The report also highlighted the case of Oras AlAryani, abducted in Sana'a by Houthi militia on **September 22, 2025**, and still held without charge. In addition, journalist Adel AlNuzaili was arrested on **November 17, 2025**, in Mocha by the National Resistance Forces affiliated with Tariq Saleh. He was taken to private prisons without legal justification after publishing social media posts critical of Saleh and his brother Ammar.

The organization stressed that detained journalists are enduring harsh and degrading conditions, including physical and psychological torture, denial of medical care and food, and restrictions on family visits. It renewed its call for the immediate release of all imprisoned journalists, demanded disclosure of the fate of those forcibly disappeared, and urged human rights and humanitarian organizations to intensify pressure on all parties responsible to end these violations.

A joint statement from the affected media outlets, published by the Houthi-affiliated Saba News Agency, confirmed that the Israeli airstrikes claimed the lives of **31** journalists. Among those killed were senior editors, reporters, and media staff from **26** September, Al-Yemen, and Saba News Agency.

The organization strongly condemned what it described as a massacre, stressing that the journalists were targeted while carrying out their professional duties. It expressed solidarity with the victims' families and the wider media community, characterizing the attack as part of a broader campaign by Israeli forces to silence journalists and obstruct coverage of crimes against civilians in the region.

Women Journalists Without Chains emphasized that the deliberate targeting of journalists constitutes a war crime under international humanitarian law and represents a blatant violation of press freedom and freedom of expression. The organization called for a full investigation into these grave violations and urged that those responsible be prosecuted before competent international courts.

Trial of the Witnesses:



Al-Seddawi



Al-Mayahi



Abu Luhum



Abdulrahman Anis

Women Journalists Without Chains reported documenting **15** incidents in **2025** where journalists were either prosecuted or summoned. Among the most notable cases was that of journalist Mohammed Al-Mayahi, who on May **24** was sentenced by the Houthi-controlled Specialized Criminal Court of First Instance for State Security Cases to **18** months in prison. The court also required him to sign a written pledge and provide a financial guarantee of five million riyals in the event of a repeat offense. Al-Mayahi had appeared before the same court on May **19** in handcuffs, a troubling precedent, and the ruling followed nearly seven months of detention, enforced disappearance, and denial of family visits after his arrest from his home in Sana'a on September **20, 2024**.

Another incident occurred on October **6, 2025**, when security authorities in Seiyun summoned journalists Abdullah Mu'min, Haddad Musaid, and Abdulmajid Bakhrisa—correspondents for Yemen Youth, Balqees, and Al-Mahriyah channels in Wadi Hadramawt. The summons was linked to their coverage of the partial strike organized by medical and health unions on September **14, 2025**.

Women Journalists Without Chains has strongly opposed the prosecution of journalists in publishing cases before state security criminal courts, declaring such rulings invalid. The organization insists that press and publishing disputes fall solely under the jurisdiction of the Press and Publications Court, as stipulated by Yemeni law. It has condemned the use of the judiciary as a means of silencing journalists and media activists, urging international press freedom organizations to denounce these arbitrary judgments and to exert pressure on all parties to end the unlawful rulings issued by the Specialized Criminal Court, which lacks authority over press and publishing matters.



Threats to Women in Media

The status of women working in journalism and media in Yemen remains among the most fragile and intricate aspects of the national media environment. Prolonged armed conflict and the erosion of human rights have compounded professional hurdles with entrenched social norms, security risks, and cultural pressures, heightening exposure to violations that jeopardize both their physical safety and mental wellbeing.

Throughout 2025, Women Journalists Without Chains recorded a marked uptick in organized defamation and incitement targeting women in the media. These efforts—often promoted by religious figures and outlets aligned with one party to the conflict—seek to push women out of public life and silence their professional contributions. Such conduct runs counter to international human rights standards, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and Article 3 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. A report issued by the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate in partnership with the International Federation of Journalists found that 60% of female journalists face genderbased violence and online harassment linked to their work, 63% conceal their identities when publishing online, and 93% express concern about harassment in digital spaces.

Several incidents illustrate the gravity of the problem. On June 4, 2025, AlHawiya TV—owned by a media figure affiliated with the Houthi group—launched a sustained campaign of defamation and incitement against female presenters at Balqees TV and Yemen Shabab TV, labeling their onair appearances as "pornographic." On November 22, cleric Sheikh Abdullah AlUdaini posted inflammatory and explicitly hateful rhetoric on Facebook targeting AlJumhuriya TV presenter Ahd Yassin, language that could endanger her safety and exemplifies the misuse of religious discourse to silence women's media voices. Two days later, on November 24, Aden TV presenter Amani Khalil Bakhariba received death threats and threats of harm against her and her family in Mukalla, reportedly from members of the Southern Transitional Council. This pattern of hate speech not only imperils individual journalists but also fosters a hostile



environment that undermines press freedom, compromises editorial independence, and constrains women's ability to participate safely and effectively in public life.

Women Journalists Without Chains calls for immediate, effective measures to curb this type of speech and ensure those responsible are held legally accountable. The organization expresses its full solidarity with women journalists and media professionals who face threats and harassment because of their work, and reaffirms its commitment to supporting independent voices that bring information and truth to the public. It unequivocally rejects all forms of intimidation or harassment directed at media workers.

Impunity

Women Journalists Without Chains reports a total of **1,845** violations against journalists and media workers in recent years, including 84 cases of killing. These figures reflect the scale and severity of the assaults on the press.

Yet, despite the seriousness of these crimes, no meaningful investigations have been conducted, nor has accountability been pursued for those responsible—whether individuals or groups. This absence of justice has fueled a steady rise in violations against journalists year after year.

The organization warns that all parties are taking advantage of this impunity to continue targeting journalists, including engaging in premeditated killings. The ongoing nature of this pattern in Yemen is described as profoundly alarming and highly perilous, eroding the foundations of media work, emboldening perpetrators, and fostering an unsafe environment that obstructs the free and independent exercise of journalism.

Against this backdrop, Women Journalists Without Chains urges the establishment of an independent international commission to investigate crimes committed against journalists, recognizing them as grave offenses that do not lapse over time. Such a mechanism is vital to bring perpetrators to justice, ensure accountability, deter further violations, and safeguard journalists and media freedom.

This table outlines the current challenges facing press freedom in Yemen and the corresponding recommendations for action. It highlights key violations alongside



proposed measures to protect journalists, ensure accountability, and strengthen media independence.

Press Freedom Crisis Matrix: Yemen & Occupied Palestine

I. Structural Threats to Media Freedom

Key Indicator	Strategic Response Required
Systematic erosion of press and media freedoms	Immediate cessation of all attacks on journalists and media workers, with formal recognition of their protected civilian status under international humanitarian law
Collapse of legal and security protections for journalists	Establish enforceable legal and institutional frameworks guaranteeing the safety, independence, and professional rights of journalists
Government-aligned forces identified as leading perpetrators of violations	Ensure transparent accountability mechanisms for state and non-state actors involved in crimes against journalists

II. Violations Against Journalists: Methods & Consequences

Documented Pattern of Abuse	Required Corrective Action
Arbitrary abduction, detention, enforced disappearance, and torture	End all unlawful arrests and abductions; immediately disclose the fate and whereabouts of forcibly disappeared journalists
Use of the judiciary as an instrument of repression	Cease politicized prosecutions, unlawful trials, and arbitrary summonses targeting journalists



Harsh sentences issued by terrorism courts	Annul all convictions issued in violation of due process and international standards of fair trial
Persistent impunity and absence of serious investigations	Establish an independent international commission of inquiry to investigate crimes against journalists and ensure accountability

III. Attacks on the Media Infrastructure

Threat Indicator	Urgent Recommendation
Direct targeting of media institutions through airstrikes, raids, and looting	Halt all attacks on media facilities and prosecute those responsible under international criminal law
Israeli airstrikes killing and injuring dozens of journalists	Enforce international protection mechanisms for journalists in conflict zones and ensure full investigations into violations

IV. Information Warfare & Gender-Based Targeting

Emerging Risk	Preventive & Protective Measures
Escalation of hate speech, disinformation, and incitement campaigns	Halt campaigns of defamation, intimidation, and incitement against journalists and media institutions, ensuring accountability
Targeted incitement against female journalists	Provide tailored legal, security, and psychosocial protection programs for women journalists facing gender-based threats



V. Protection, Support & Monitoring

Operational Gap	Recommended Intervention
Lack of international oversight of detention conditions	Grant local and international human rights organizations full access to detention facilities
Economic vulnerability of journalists in official media institutions	Guarantee immediate and uninterrupted payment of journalists' salaries
Insufficient safety mechanisms for conflict reporting	Strengthen professional safety standards and emergency response systems for journalists in high-risk environments
Psychological trauma among journalists affected by conflict	Provide comprehensive legal and psychological support services to affected journalists

About Women Journalists Without Chains

Established in Yemen in 2005, Women Journalists Without Chains is a regional organization led by Tawakkol Karman, recipient of the 2011 Nobel Peace Prize. By 2023, its presence had grown to encompass 21 countries across the Middle East and North Africa. The organization is dedicated to defending the public's right to obtain accurate facts, credible news, and trustworthy information, and to strengthening the capacity of individuals in the region to exercise their fundamental freedoms of thought, opinion, and civic engagement. It promotes the values of accountable governance and actively challenges policies and practices that undermine equality and human dignity.

Women Journalists Without Chains collaborates closely with civil society groups focused on media freedom, freedom of expression, and the protection of human rights. Through these partnerships, it advances its mission to safeguard journalists and to cultivate a broad regional and international advocacy network committed to securing the right of people in the Middle East and North Africa to reliable information. Since its



inception, the organization has played a central role in establishing an independent and influential voice in Yemen, exposing violations against press freedom and freedom of opinion. Over time, it has extended its work throughout 21 countries in the region, engaging in dialogue on press freedom and consistently defending the rights and safety of journalists.

Documented Pattern of Abduction, Arrest, and Arbitrary Detention of Journalists in Yemen (January–November 2025)

Between January and November 2025, journalists across Yemen were subjected to a systematic campaign of enforced disappearance, arbitrary arrest, and unlawful detention by multiple security agencies and armed groups. These violations, documented by Women Journalists Without Chains, demonstrate a coordinated assault on press freedom and independent journalism.

The following record illustrates the geographic spread, institutional involvement, and recurring methods of repression.

I. Chronology of Violations

January–March 2025: Escalation Phase

22 January | Taiz

Journalist Abdulrahman Nasr was abducted by armed men affiliated with the Political Security Organization on Jamal Street in central Taiz.

9 February | Al-Dhale'

Journalist Mohammed Abdulrahman Al-Shu'aibi, correspondent for Yemen Today TV, was arrested while covering protests in the Sana'a district of Al-Dhale' governorate.

20 February | Hadramout

Journalist Imad Mahdi Al-Dini, head of the Observers Media Foundation and editor-in-chief of Akhbar Hadramout, was detained by security forces and transferred to an undisclosed location without legal justification.



24 February | Al-Mokha

Journalist Hussam Bakri, correspondent for Yemen Today TV, was arrested by West Coast forces following a Facebook post criticizing restrictions on sports activities during Ramadan in Hays.

9 March | Mukalla

Journalist Ali Abdullah Al-Khalaqi was summoned by the East Mukalla Primary Prosecution after appearing on satellite television and criticizing deteriorating public services.

10 March | Sana'a

Journalist Ahmed Awadhah disappeared after leaving his home. According to his family, his fate and whereabouts remain unknown.

April–June 2025: Consolidation of Repression

16 April | Hadramout

Journalist Awad Kashmim bin Hilabi was arrested over published writings critical of local authorities.

12 May | Taiz

Journalist Imran Al-Hamadi was detained at the headquarters of the 35th Brigade.

15 May | Dhamar

Security forces pursued journalist Fuad Al-Nahari and raided his residence, withdrawing only after confirming he was not present.

25 May | Marib

Journalist Balah Al-Hamidi was held for several hours at the Third Security Zone over a Facebook post regarding an armed assault on a civilian.

26 May | Aden

Photojournalist Hussein Balhasab was detained by Southern Transitional Council se-



curity belt forces while covering a peaceful women's protest.

26 May | Al-Hudaidah

Houthi forces arrested journalist Waleed Ghalib, deputy head of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate branch in Al-Hudaidah.

26 May | Al-Hudaidah

On the same day, journalists Hassan Ziyad, photojournalists Abduljabbar Ziyad and Abdulaziz Al-Nawm, and media activists Asim Mohammed and Abdulmajid Al-Zaylai were arrested by Houthi forces.

19 June | Mukalla

Journalist Muzahim Bajaber, publisher and editor-in-chief of the Al-Ahqaf Media Platform, was detained by military forces and transferred to the Criminal Investigation Department.

July–September 2025: Nationwide Expansion

28 July | Mukalla

Journalist Abduljabbar Bajabir, publisher and editor-in-chief of Ad TV, was stopped by military personnel in Abdullah Ghareeb and transferred to the Criminal Investigation prison.

16 August | Marib

Journalist Hamoud Haza'a was arrested from his home during a raid that terrorized his family and transferred to an unknown location.

16 August | Mukalla

Journalist Omar Karman was arrested over social media posts and transferred to military intelligence detention without charges.

18 August | Jeddah

Saudi authorities arrested Yemeni journalist Mujahid Al-Hayqi at Jeddah Airport while



accompanying his mother after Umrah. His fate remains unknown.

22 September | Sana'a

Journalist Oras Al-Aryani was abducted by Houthi gunmen and imprisoned without charges.

23 September | Sana'a

Journalist Majid Zayed was abducted by Houthi gunmen and jailed.

27 September | Aden

Journalist Fathi Bin Lzraq, editor-in-chief of Aden Al-Ghad, was arrested by Southern Transitional Council security forces.

September | Ibb

Photojournalist Jihad Al-Hamidi was arrested for operating a drone camera despite holding official authorization from Houthi authorities.

October–November 2025: Entrenchment of the Pattern

12 October | Taiz

Journalist Yazid Al-Faqih was arbitrarily detained by Political Security forces.

18 October | Taiz

Journalist Osama Al-Kurbash was detained.

17 November | Al-Mokha

Journalist Adel Al-Nuzaili was arrested by National Resistance forces loyal to Presidential Leadership Council member Tareq Saleh. His home was raided, and he was transferred to private detention facilities over social media posts critical of Tareq and Ammar Saleh.

24 November | Sana'a

Journalist Khaled Al-Arasi was arrested outside his home.



II. Analytical Observations

These cases reveal:

- Coordinated targeting of journalists across nearly all regions of Yemen
- Involvement of multiple actors: government-aligned forces, Houthi militia, STC forces, and foreign authorities
- Criminalization of journalism, social media expression, and peaceful coverage
- Widespread enforced disappearance and incommunicado detention
- Total absence of due process and judicial safeguards

Together, these practices constitute grave violations of international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

Targeted Killings of Journalists and Media Professionals

Throughout 2025, journalists in Yemen were subjected not only to arbitrary detention and enforced disappearance, but also to direct lethal attacks connected to their professional activities. The following cases, documented by **Women Journalists Without Chains**, reflect the most serious violations committed against media workers during the reporting period.

1. Killing of Journalist Musab Al-Hattami

26 April 2025 — South of Marib

Journalist Musab Al-Hattami, a television director and cameraman, was killed when a mortar shell fired by Houthi forces struck his location while he was preparing a field report on the war south of Marib Governorate. Al-Hattami was engaged in civilian journalistic work at the time of the attack, and his killing constitutes a grave breach of the protections afforded to journalists under international humanitarian law.

2. Mass Killing of Journalists in Sana'a

10 September 2025 — Sana'a

On 10 September 2025, 31 journalists, media workers, and media professionals



affiliated with the newspapers 26 September and Yemen, and the Saba News Agency, were killed and others injured when Israeli airstrikes struck media facilities in the capital, Sana'a.

The incident was confirmed in a joint statement issued by the two media organizations and published by the Houthi-affiliated Saba News Agency. The scale of casualties among media personnel represents one of the deadliest attacks on journalists in Yemen in recent years.

Women Journalists Without Chains

List of the names of 31 journalists who were victims of Israeli airstrikes.

1. Abdulaziz Yahya Yahya Sheikh	18. Mohammed Abdu Yahya Al-Sanafi
2. Youssef Ali Yahya Shams Al-Din	19. Mohammed Al-Izzi Ghalib Al-Harazi
3. Ali Naji Saeed Al-Shara'i	20. Jamal Firas Ali Al-Aadhi
4. Sami Mohammed Hussein Al-Zaydi	21. Issam Ahmed Murshid Al-Hashidi
5. Mohammed Ismail Hizam Al-Omaysi	22. Saleem Abdullah Abdu Ahmed Al-Wutairi
6. Murad Mohammed Ali Al-Faqih	23. Abbas Abdulmalik Mohammed Al-Dailami
7. Ali Mohammed Ahmed Al-Faqih	24. Lutfi Ahmed Nasser Hudayan
8. Abdulqawi Mohammed Saleh Al-Asfour	25. Qais Abdu Ahmed Al-Naqeeb
9. Bashir Hussein Ahsan Dublan	26. Mohammed Ali Hamoud Al-Dhawi
10. Aref Ali Abdu Al-Samhi	27. Fares Abdu Ali Al-Rumaysah
11. Mohammed Hamoud Ahmed Al-Matari	28. Abdulrahman Mohammed Mohammed Jaaman
12. Abdulwali Abdu Hussein Al-Najjar	29. Ali Mohammed Ali Al-Aaqil
13. Abdu Tamer Musleh Al-Sa'adi	30. Amal Mohammed Ghalib Al-Manakhi
14. Abdulaziz Saleh Ahmed Shas	31. Abdullah Mahdi Abdullah Al-Bahr
15. Abdullah Mohammed Abdu Al-Harazi	
16. Mohammed Ahmed Mohammed Al-Za'kari	
17. Zuhair Ahmed Mohammed Al-Za'kari	



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Trials and Summons

I. Politicized Prosecutions and Punitive Sentences

27 January | Sana'a

The Specialized Criminal Prosecution for State Security Cases, affiliated with the Houthi militia, refused to transfer journalist Mohammed Al-Mayahi to the legally competent Press and Publications Prosecution, violating established procedural safeguards for press cases.

20 February | Sana'a

The Specialized Criminal Court rejected the appeal against its ruling ordering the execution of Taha Al-Maamari, owner of Yemen Digital Media and Yemen Live, in a case widely condemned for its political motivations and lack of due process.

13 May | Aden

The Mansoura Primary Court sentenced journalist Adnan Al-Ajjam, editor-in-chief of Al-Umanaa newspaper, to two months' imprisonment with immediate enforcement, declaring him a fugitive from justice.

13 May | Aden

On the same day, the court sentenced journalist Abdulqawi Al-Azibi, correspondent for Al-Umanaa in Lahj, to two months' imprisonment with suspension over his coverage of the killing of Dr. Ahmed Al-Duwail.

19 May | Sana'a

The Specialized Criminal Court convened a trial session for Mohammed Al-Miyahi, who appeared in court in shackles. He rejected the indictment and evidence presented, asserting that his writings had been deliberately distorted. His lawyer later disclosed details of the abusive conditions of his interrogation in prison.

24 May | Sana'a

The Specialized Primary Criminal Court for State Security sentenced Mohammed Al-



Mayahi to one year and six months in prison, imposed a written pledge, and demanded a financial guarantee of five million riyals should he repeat similar journalistic activity.

3 July | Marib

The Primary Court conducted a trial session against a media channel over a publishing case, appointing legal representation for the outlet without its knowledge or consent, in violation of fundamental fair-trial standards.

II. Campaign of Summons and Legal Intimidation

26 July | Taiz

Journalist Marzouq Yassin, correspondent for Al-Nidaa electronic newspaper, was summoned by criminal investigation authorities following a complaint from the Taiz Governorate's Director General of Financial and Administrative Affairs over his reporting on the storming of Al-Mudaffar District headquarters.

26 July | Taiz

Journalist Wajdi Al-Salmi was summoned over the same incident.

6 October | Seiyun – Wadi Hadramout

Journalist Abdullah Moamen, correspondent for Yemen Shabab, was summoned by security authorities over coverage of the partial strike carried out by medical and health unions on 14 September.

6 October | Seiyun

Journalist Haddad Mosaed, correspondent for Belqis channel, was summoned over the same coverage.

6 October | Seiyun

Journalist Abdulmajid Bakreisa, correspondent for Al-Mahriah channel, was also summoned regarding the same reporting.

13 October | Taiz



Journalist Jamil Al-Samit appeared before the Sabir Primary Court in a publishing case.

2 November | Sana'a

Authorities issued orders to bring detained journalist Mohammed Al-Miyahi before the appellate division of the Criminal Court for an appeal session.

9 November | Aden

Journalist Abdulrahman Anis appeared before the Press, Publications, and Electronic Publishing Prosecution following an official complaint filed by the Southern Transitional Council. He appointed a legal team of four lawyers to defend the case.

III. Legal Assessment

These proceedings reveal a systematic pattern of:

- Criminalization of journalistic work
- Abuse of exceptional courts and security prosecutions
- Denial of procedural safeguards and fair-trial rights
- Use of imprisonment, financial penalties, and summonses as tools of intimidation

Such practices constitute serious violations of international human rights law and undermine the independence of the judiciary and the freedom of the press.

Assaults and Injuries

I. Raids, Beatings, and Direct Physical Assault

20 February | Hadramout

Journalist Emad Mahdi Al-Dini, head of the Media Monitors Foundation and editor-in-chief of Akhbar Hadramout, was assaulted in front of his children as security forces raided his home, terrorizing his family.

10 May | Taiz

Journalist Imran Al-Hammadi was beaten and threatened by a member of the 35th



Armored Brigade following false accusations of working for the Houthi group.

3 July | Taiz

Journalist Hael Saeed Al-Sharahi, correspondent for Al Arabiya Al-Hadath, and his team were verbally and physically assaulted by armed elements of the 22nd Mika Brigade while documenting victims of an explosion at a fuel station in the Al-Ashraf area east of Taiz. Their mobile phones were smashed.

7 July | Aden

Journalist Alaa Al-Sallal, correspondent for Al-Yawm channel, was beaten and had his camera confiscated.

25 July | Taiz (Al-Shamayatayn District)

Journalist Mohammed Al-Hammadi, correspondent for Suhail channel, was brutally attacked by an unknown assailant while returning home. He was struck on the head with a sharp object, lost consciousness, and suffered severe bleeding, requiring hospitalization.

II. Armed Attacks and War-Related Injuries

26 April | South of Marib

Media photographer Sohaib Al-Hattami sustained serious injuries after being targeted by a mortar shell fired by Houthi militias while preparing a media report on the war.

28 August | Taiz (Al-Shamayatayn District)

Journalist Mujahid Al-Qub was shot in the shoulder when a bullet pierced the door of his home. Security authorities failed to identify the perpetrator.

10 September | Sana'a

Journalist Mansour Al-Ansi was injured during Israeli airstrikes targeting the Moral Guidance Department and the newspapers 26 September and Yemen.



III. Gender-Based and Institutional Harassment

24 September | Taiz

Photographer Yazan Al-Fahidi, of Belqis channel, was assaulted by guards of the local authority building.

13 December | Taiz

Media professional Maya Al-Aghbari, freelance correspondent for People's TV Platform, was verbally assaulted by an armed man, followed by an attack on her car and the smashing of its windows.

Threats, Intimidation, and Pursuit

I. Targeted Threats and Personal Intimidation

3 February | Aden

Forces of the Southern Transitional Council (STC) continued their pursuit of journalist Abdulraqib Al-Hadayni, subjecting him to repeated threats, according to a statement issued by the Journalists' Syndicate.

10 April | Online

Journalist Fuad Al-Nahari received explicit death threats and threats of being dragged through the streets via an anonymous phone call, which he later documented on his Facebook account.

19 May | Egypt / Online

Journalist Yaseen Al-Aqlani, working with Yemen Shabab Net, was threatened with abduction by Abdulhadi Al-Shoudhabi following his reporting on irregularities in high school examinations for Yemeni students in Egypt.

11 May | Online

Photojournalist Abu Bakr Al-Yousfi was targeted by anonymous accounts with direct threats after publishing commentary on his Facebook page.



8 March | Sana'a

Journalist Yaqub Muthanna Al-Sufyani was subjected to threats and defamation by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research following his publication of information concerning the government scholarship mechanism.

II. Institutional Pressure and Surveillance

4 July | Mukalla

Journalist Abduljabbar Bajabeer and his colleagues at Ad Channel were subjected to systematic intimidation, including surveillance of their families, workplace monitoring, and tracking of their movements.

24 November | Taiz

Yemen Shabab Channel faced an organized campaign of threats by local authorities after broadcasting an analytical report based on findings from international experts concerning governance in Taiz governorate.

III. Gender-Based and Public-Space Intimidation

8 October | Taiz

Media professional Shaimaa Ramzi was verbally threatened by a soldier of the Public Security forces affiliated with the Deputy Director of Security in Taiz, Nabil Al-Kadahi, while she was participating in a peaceful public event.

24 November | Mukalla

Journalist Amani Khalil Bakhariba, anchor at Aden TV, received explicit threats of killing and threats of harm to her family through audio and written messages sent by elements affiliated with the Southern Transitional Council.

Closure, Raids, Looting, and Bombing of Media Outlets and Journalists' Homes



I. Raids on Journalists' Homes

20 February | Hadramout

Security forces raided the home of journalist Emad Mahdi Al-Dini, head of the Monitors Media Foundation.

16 August | Marib Governorate

Military forces stormed the home of journalist Hamoud Hazza', conducted a search of the premises, terrorized his family, and confiscated his personal belongings, in violation of the inviolability of civilian homes.

II. Suppression and Closure of Media Institutions

Saqr Media Center

The Center was forced to cease operations following nearly two years of continuous pressure, intimidation, and repeated violations by authorities, reflecting a deliberate campaign to dismantle independent media.

27 September | Aden (Mansoura)

Security forces affiliated with the Southern Transitional Council raided the offices of Aden Al-Ghad newspaper, forcibly expelled staff members, and ordered the outlet's closure.

III. Bombing and Destruction of Media Facilities

10 September | Sana'a

The offices of the newspapers 26 September and Yemen were destroyed in airstrikes carried out by the Israeli forces against media institutions in the capital, Sana'a, causing extensive damage to civilian media infrastructure.

IV. Attacks on Journalists' Property

11 November | Sana'a

Journalist Zakaria Al-Hussami's vehicle was vandalized after he received repeated



threats from influential figures in his neighborhood. The windshield and mirrors of his car were deliberately smashed, in an apparent act of intimidation.

Incitement, Defamation, and Abuse Against Journalists and Media Professionals

I. Gender-Based Incitement and Smear Campaigns

4 June | National Broadcast

Female anchors at Balqees and Yemen Shabab channels were targeted by coordinated smear campaigns, including insults and incitement broadcast by Al-Hawiyah channel, which is affiliated with a Houthi-linked figure. The attacks constituted a form of gender-based harassment and public incitement.

22 November | Online / Public Sphere

Anchor Ahd Yassin, of Al-Jumhuriya channel, was targeted by cleric Sheikh Abdullah Al-Udaini, who published inflammatory content on Facebook containing explicit hate speech and incitement. The campaign endangered her safety, deepened social divisions, and sought to silence independent voices.

II. Systematic Defamation of Journalists

30 January | Aden

Journalist Ahmed Maher was subjected to coordinated smear and incitement campaigns led by media outlets and public figures aligned with the Southern Transitional Council.

29 June | Multiple Platforms

Journalist Abduljabbar Awad Al-Jariri faced systematic campaigns of defamation and incitement following his media appearances and public statements addressing the deteriorating state of journalism, escalating violations against journalists, and broader public issues.

29 June | Second Campaign

On the same day, Al-Jariri was again targeted by renewed defamation and incitement



campaigns, this time specifically in response to his remarks on violations of press freedom.

Obstruction of Journalistic Work and Systematic Suppression of Media Freedom

I. Direct Prevention of Journalistic Activity

7 May | Hadramout

Journalist Mohammed Omar Balahman was prevented from covering a protest in front of Ibn Sina Hospital by hospital guards and Coastal Security forces.

28 May | Sana'a

The local authority in the capital, under Houthi control, issued an official directive prohibiting all television crews and content creators from filming or conducting field interviews inside the city without prior authorization from the Ministry of Information — effectively imposing blanket censorship.

3 July | Taiz

Media teams from Al Arabiya and Al-Hadath channels were barred from filming victims of the fuel station explosion in the Al-Ashraf area, east of Taiz.

13 September | Sana'a

The Houthi-run Ministry of Interior issued a circular banning the filming or publication of images of sites targeted by Israeli airstrikes, claiming such coverage "serves the enemy," thereby criminalizing independent reporting.

27 September | Aden

Security forces affiliated with the Southern Transitional Council stormed the offices of Aden Al-Ghad newspaper, expelled journalists at gunpoint, and forcibly prohibited the continuation of their work.

II. Economic Repression of Journalists

25 November | Government-controlled areas



Journalists working in official media institutions under the internationally recognized government reported the suspension of salary payments for over nine months, creating severe economic pressure and undermining the sustainability of independent journalism.

III. Arbitrary Detention Practices and Denial of Legal Rights

7 December | Undisclosed Detention Facility ("Al-Qanuniya")

Journalist Adel Al-Nuzaili was denied family visits as well as medical and legal examinations while being held without clear judicial procedures, according to the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate.

IV. Digital Censorship and Blocking of Online Media

7 September | Houthi-controlled areas

The Houthi group blocked access to the independent news website Bran Press, restricting public access to information.