

The United Nations and Irish Aid presents:

Under The Wire

Chris Martin Director of the Film



Chris Martin is an award winning feature documentary and TV director. His extensive journalistic experience began with his work on investigations for ITV's World In Action and C4 Dispatches. Many of these films won critical acclaim, notably three major investigations into the international arms trade. He moved on to long form documentary, including Palestine Is Still The Issue, Stealing A Nation, and The War On Democracy, a ninety-minute feature documentary. He has worked for all the major British and American television networks and had directed primetime drama documentaries both in the UK and USA. His films have been nominated for, and won, over 20 international awards, including BAFTA, RTS and Amnesty International.

Martina Feeney

Director Human Rights Unit, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland



Martina Feeney has been the Director of the Human Rights Unit in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade since September 2016. From March 2014 to August 2016 she was the Representative of Ireland in Palestine. From 2008 to 2013 Ms Feeney was the Deputy Head of the Permanent Mission of Ireland to the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe. This period encompassed the Irish Chairmanship of the OSCE in 2012. From 2005 to 2008, Ms Feeney was seconded to the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment as Head of the Licensing Unit, Ireland's export control authority. During this time she chaired the Expert Group of the Wassenaar Arrangement – the export control regime for conventional arms and dual use goods.

Saorla McCabe

Programme Specialist for the Division for Freedom of Expression, UNESCO



Saorla McCabe is a Programme Specialist in UNESCO's Division for Freedom of Expression and Media Development. Her work focuses on coordinating the implementation of the UN Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, a UN-wide effort to enhance collaboration in tackling these issues. She is in charge of the organization of World Press Freedom Day, a flagship awareness-raising celebration involving some 100 events worldwide each year. Since 2012, she has supported UNESCO's media development activities in Palestine.

Caroline Petit

Deputy Director of UNRIC, the United Nations Regional Information Centre



Caroline Petit has worked in strategic communication and media partnership at international level for 25 years. She joined the UN in 2001 and, was posted first as Head of the Media Partnerships Unit at the United Nations Headquarters in New York before joining UNRIC in 2013. She started her career at the European Commission's Media Programme.

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Violence Against Journalists

Every four days, a journalist is murdered, often for simply doing their job of uncovering something that someone wants to stay hidden: the vast majority of these killings go unpunished.

To help raise awareness of this situation, UNESCO, the UN Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation, launched a campaign, Truth Never Dies, on last year's International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists. The message of the campaign is that, by publishing stories of these journalists in the media and demanding that justice be done, truth will not die.



Each year, one journalist gets a Pulitzer and one hundred get shot.

Violence Against Women Journalists

Attacks on women journalists, both online or offline, are hurting democracies. This was the blunt message from a panel organized by UNESCO on 20 March 2018, during the 62nd edition of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) at United Nations headquarters in New York.

Speaking about gendered online harassment, panel member Maria Ressa noted that women are targeted online three times more than men. Ressa emphasized the importance of repelling self-doubts that are infused with the very personal and sexual threats that are targeted against women journalists and often their families.

1/4

WOMEN

media workers have experienced

ACTS OF
PHYSICAL
VIOLENCE

1/2

WOMEN

media workers have experienced

SEXUAL
HARASSMENT

3/4

WOMEN

media workers have experienced

INTIMIDATION,
THREATS AND
ABUSE

IFJ's Stop Gender-Based Violence Campaign

Irish Aid

The Syrian conflict has created one of the worst humanitarian crises of our time. Since 2012, Ireland has provided over €118 million in humanitarian assistance to those affected by the conflict in Syria, with over €25 million being provided each year 2016-2018. Ireland's support is channelled through a range of partners including UN organisations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement as well as various non-governmental organisations. These partners provide those most in need with humanitarian supplies and access to urgently needed health, education, water and sanitation services as well as cash-based assistance to ensure that Syrians affected by the crisis, including those who have been forced to flee their homes, are supported to meet their own critical needs.