



PRESS RELEASE

Media Organisations and CSOs to Mark World Press Freedom Day 2026 Amid Mounding Challenges to Media Freedom in Cambodia

Phnom Penh, April 27, 2026 — Over 10 media organisations, civil society organisations and development partners will host a full-day national conference to mark **World Press Freedom Day 2026** (May 3), gathering approximately 150 participants, including journalists, media workers, content creators, citizen journalists, civil society actors, development partners, media rights advocates, youth, foreign embassies and the government institutions.

The conference, themed **“Fostering a Free and Responsible Media for Peace and Development,”** will take place on **30 April 2026** at Himawari Hotel in Phnom Penh. It aims to reaffirm the fundamental principles of freedom of expression and to recognise the essential role of a free, independent, and pluralistic media in advancing human rights, promoting good governance, and supporting sustainable development and peace.

As a joint initiative involving media organisations, civil society groups, and development partners, the conference also aims to promote inclusive dialogue at both national and local levels. It is expected that these discussions will foster greater understanding, enhance cooperation, and generate practical recommendations to strengthen protections for journalists and support a more enabling media environment.

The conference will feature three key discussions: media legal frameworks, crisis reporting, and the role of artificial intelligence in the media. It will also include the launch of a new study on Environmental Journalism in Cambodia, which highlights the challenges faced by environmental reporters in Cambodia and their support needs. In addition, the event will present an analysis of key Concerns and Recommendations of Civil Society Organizations over the Information Ministry’s Prakas on Qualification and Journalistic Professionalism, as well as an overview of the RSF World Press Freedom Index 2026, focusing on Asia Pacific Region.

The panel discussions will bring together journalists, legal experts, policymakers, academics, and government officials to share perspectives and practical experiences.

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