

Joint statement on proposed changes to US visas for foreign journalists

We, the undersigned, representing leading broadcast, print and digital media, news organizations and journalists' organizations around the world, call on the United States Government to withdraw its recent proposal to change the I visa programme for foreign journalists.

The current I visa framework, which typically allows for stays of up to five years, has for decades ensured that international journalists can report accurately on rolling and breaking news in the United States.

By spending years, not months, on the ground, journalists gain the deep knowledge, trusted networks and contextual immersion needed to explain America to global audiences. This serves a critical U.S. interest: ensuring that America's policies, culture, and leadership are clearly and accurately communicated to international audiences in their own languages.

The proposal to limit visas to 240 days would disrupt this proven system, create instability for correspondents and their families, and reduce the quantity and quality of coverage coming from the U.S.

That risks leaving the world less informed about American news and current affairs. Rival nations and powerful adversaries will waste no time in filling the resulting vacuum with narratives about the U.S. that serve their own interests before the truth.

We recognize the importance of national security and visa integrity, but the proposed change will not advance these priorities. The existing I visa program already provides for strict accountability, transparency and compliance by tying each visa to a specific journalist and their employer. Curtailing it will not strengthen security—it will just weaken the world's understanding of American life, including around events like the Olympic Games and national elections.

The U.S.A. has always stood for openness, freedom of expression and a strong, independent press. Restricting foreign media access risks undermining that legacy because it emulates countries where press freedom is near extinct. That would damage, not enhance, America's global standing.

We therefore urge the Administration to maintain the existing I visa framework, which supports the United States in projecting strength, credibility, and leadership worldwide.

We also stand ready for further dialogue with the U.S. authorities on how best to achieve these shared objectives.

Signatories:

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| 1. | 3Cat (Catalan Public Service Media) | |
| 2. | Agence France Presse (AFP) | Phil Chetwynd, Global News Director |
| 3. | Alianza Informativa Latinoamericana | Juan Carlos Isaza, Executive Director |
| 4. | Altinget | Veslemoy Ostrem, Editor-in-Chief |
| 5. | Arab States Broadcasting Union (ASBU) | Abdelrahim Suleiman, Director General |
| 6. | ARTE | Heike Hempel, President |

7.	Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union (ABU)	Ahmed Nadeem, Secretary-General
8.	Association of Commercial Television and VOD Services in Europe (ACT)	
9.	Association of European Radios (AER)	
10.	Association of Foreign Press Correspondents in the USA (AFPC-USA)	
11.	Association of Independent Regional Press Publishers of Ukraine	Oksana Brovko, CEO
12.	Association of Norwegian Editors	Reidun Kjelling Nybø, Secretary General
13.	Association of Public Broadcasters in Germany (ARD)	Katja Wildermuth, Director General, Bayerischer Rundfunk
14.	Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)	Justin Stevens, Director of News
15.	Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF)	Roland Weissmann, Director General
16.	Bloomberg News	
17.	Bell Media	Richard Gray, Vice-President, CTV News
18.	British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC)	Tim Davie, Director General
19.	Bulgarian National Television (BNT)	Emil Koshlukov, Director General
20.	Bundesverband Digitalpublisher und Zeitungsverleger	Dr. Jörg Eggers, CEO
21.	Canadian Association of Journalists (CAJ)	Brent Jolly, President
22.	Caribbean Broadcasting Union (CBU)	
23.	CBC/Radio-Canada	Brodie Fenlon, General Manager and Editor-in-Chief, CBC News; Luce Julien, General Manager, News and Current Affairs, Radio Canada
24.	Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)	
25.	Corporación Radiotelevisión Española (RTVE)	José Pablo López Sánchez, President
26.	Croatian Radio and Television (HRT)	Robert Šveb, Director General
27.	Czech Publishers Association	Tomáš Tkačik, Chairman
28.	Czech Radio	René Zavoral, Director General
29.	Czech Television	Hynek Chudárek, Director General
30.	Danish Broadcasting Corporation (DR)	Bjarne Fog Corydon, Director General
31.	Deutschlandradio	Stefan Raue, Director General
32.	Die Zeit	Giovanni di Lorenzo and Jochen Wegner, Editors-in-Chief
33.	DW (Deutsche Welle)	Peter Limbourg, Director General
34.	Eesti Rahvusringhääling (Estonian Television)	Erik Roose, Chairman and CEO
35.	Estonian Association of News Media Enterprises	Väino Koorberg, CEO
36.	European Alliance of News Agencies (EANA)	
37.	European Broadcasting Union (EBU)	Delphine Ernotte Cunci, President, and Noel Curran, Director General
38.	European Centre for Press and Media Freedom (ECPMF)	
39.	European Federation of Journalists (EFJ)	Ricardo Gutierrez, General Secretary

40.	European Magazine Media Association (EMMA)	
41.	European News Exchange (ENEX)	Adrian Wells, Managing Director
42.	European Newspaper Publishers' Association (ENPA)	
43.	European Publishers Council (EPC)	Angela Mills Wade, Executive Director
44.	Feature Story News	Simon Marks, President
45.	Foreign Press Association (FPA)	Ian Williams, President
46.	France Médias Monde	Marie-Christine Saragosse, CEO
47.	France Télévisions	Delphine Ernotte Cunci, CEO
48.	Georgian Public Broadcaster (GPB)	Tina Berdzenishvili, Director General
49.	Global News	Sonia Verma, Editor-in-Chief
50.	Hungarian Publishers' Association	Tibor Kovacs, President
51.	Index on Censorship	Jemimah Steinfeld, CEO
52.	Inter American Press Association	
53.	International Federation of Journalists (IFJ)	Anthony Bellanger, General Secretary
54.	International Press Institute (IPI)	Scott Griffen, Executive Director
55.	International Publishers Association (IPA)	
56.	ITV	Laura Wilshaw, Editor, ITV News
57.	Japan Newspaper Publishers & Editors Association (NSK)	Shiro Nakamura, Chair
58.	Journalists for Human Rights	Rachel Pulfer, President
59.	JP/Politikens Hus	Stig Kirk Ørskov, CEO
60.	Korean Association of Newspapers	Chai Chung, Lim, President
61.	La Presse	Francois Cardinal, VP-Deputy Publisher
62.	La Radio-télévision belge de la Communauté française (RTBF)	Jean Paul Philippot, Director General
63.	Latvian Publishers Association	Maris Ancs, Chair of the Board
64.	Lithuanian National Radio and Television (LRT)	Monika Garbačiauskaitė-Budrienė, Director General
65.	Luxembourg Association of News Media (ALMI)	Paul Peckels, President
66.	Media For Europe (MFE)	
67.	Neue Zürcher Zeitung	Dr. Felix Graf, CEO, and Simon Jakob, Senior Legal Counsel
68.	News Media Canada	Paul Deegan, President and CEO
69.	News Media Europe	Wout van Wijk, Editor-in-Chief
70.	North American Broadcasters Association (NABA)	Rebecca Hanson, Director General
71.	Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation (NRK)	Vibeke Furst Haugen, Director General, and Sigurd Falkenberg Mikkelsen, Editor of Foreign Affairs
72.	Norwegian Union of Journalists	Dag Idar Tryggestad, President
73.	NOS (Dutch Public Broadcaster for News)	Renate Eringa, General Manager
74.	NPO (Dutch Public Broadcaster)	Lucien Brouwer, Board of Directors
75.	Organización Editorial Mexicana (OEM)	Martha Ramos, Chief Editorial Officer
76.	Pacific Media Network (PMN)	Don Mann, CEO, Pacific Media Network

77.	Private Newspapers and Online News Publishers Association of Ghana (PRINPAG)	David Tamakloe, President
78.	Project Kontinuum	Branko Brkic, Leader
79.	Public Media Alliance (PMA)	
80.	Public Television Company of Armenia	
81.	Rádio e Televisão de Portugal (RTP)	Nicolau Santos, President
82.	Radio France	Sibyle Veil, President and Director General
83.	Radio New Zealand (RNZ)	
84.	Radiotelevisione Italiana (RAI)	Giampaolo Rossi, CEO
85.	Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press	Bruce D. Brown, President
86.	Reporters Without Borders (RSF)	Thibaut Bruttin, Director General
87.	Reuters	
88.	Ringier Hungary	Tibor Kovacs, CEO
89.	Ringier Media	Dmitry Shishkin, Strategic Editorial Advisor
90.	Rory Peck Trust	Jon Williams, Executive Director
91.	RTCG	Boris Raonić, Director General
92.	RTÉ	Kevin Bakhurst, Director General
93.	RTV Slovenia	Natalija Gorščak, President of the Management Board
94.	RÚV	Stefán Eiríksson, Director General
95.	Sky News	Tim Singleton, Head of International News
96.	SRG SSR	Susanne Wille, Director General
97.	Star Media Group	Esther Ng, Chief Content Officer
98.	Süddeutsche Zeitung	Wolfgang Krach, CEO
99.	Suspilne Ukraine	Mykola Chernotytskyi, Head of the Managing Board
100.	Sveriges Radio / Swedish Radio	Cilla Benkö, Director General
101.	SVT (Swedish Television)	Anne Lagercrantz, CEO
102.	The Associated Press (AP)	Paul Haven, VP Head of Global News Gathering
103.	The Financial Times	Brooke Masters, US Managing Editor
104.	The Globe and Mail	Andrew Saunders, CEO and President
105.	The Guardian	Katharine Viner, Editor-in-Chief
106.	The Irish Times	Deirdre Veldon, Group Managing Director
107.	Tidningsutgivarna, Swedish Newspaper Publishers Association	Johan Taubert, CEO
108.	TV2 Denmark	Anne Engdal Stig Christensen, CEO
109.	Ukrainian Media Business Association	Oleksii Pogorelov, President
110.	United Daily News	George K. Shuang, Managing Director
111.	Utbildningsradion (UR)	Kalle Sandhammar, CEO
112.	VAUNET - German Association of Private Media	
113.	Verlegerverband Schweizer Medien (Swiss Publishers Association)	Andrea Masüger, President
114.	Vocento	Fernando Belzunce, Executive Editorial Director

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| 115. World Association of News Publishers (WAN-IFRA) | Ladina Heimgartner, President, and Vincent Peyregne, CEO |
| 116. World Editors Forum | David Walmsley, President |
| 117. Yleisradio Oy (YLE) | Merja Ylä-Anttila, CEO |
| 118. ZDF | Norbert Himmler, Director General |