



# PRESS FREEDOMS IN THE ARAB WORLD

## FIRST HALF OF 2021 REPORT

Freedom of opinion and expression program

Forum for Development & Human Rights Dialogue

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## Introduction :

The human right to freedom of thought, opinion and expression is one of the fundamental rights of man and a central pillar for the realization and exercise of democracy, as freedom of expression helps to develop fertile ground for the fruits of opinions and ideas that generate renewed ideas and visions and therefore it is not permissible to restrict that freedom with shackles that hinder its practice - whether in terms of imposing prior restrictions on its publication or by imposing sanctions on individual practitioners, therefore, laws or acts must be imposed to suppress or prevent them, but those concerned should protect that freedom and help journalists to convey their ideas that roam their minds in public.

That is why many international and domestic laws have been enacted to protect that freedom, as the first official law recognizing freedom of opinion and expression dates back to the French Declaration of Human Rights issued after the French Revolution of 1789, in which article 11 states that "the free circulation of ideas and opinions is an important human right, every citizen may speak and print freely with responsibility for the misuse of this freedom in cases specified by law ."

It is one of the basic documents of the French Revolution, which defines the individual and collective rights of the nation, and its publication was influenced by enlightenment, theories of social contract and natural rights of which intellectuals such as Jean-Jacques Rousseau, John Locke, Voltaire and Montesquieu championed, and constituted the first step in drafting the Constitution. Every human being can speak, write and publish his opinions freely. But he has to entrust what he writes in matters provided for by law.

On the international level in 1948, the UN General Assembly recognized that everyone had the right to freedom of opinion and expression, article (19) which stated that "everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression



... This right includes the freedom to hold opinions without any interference, to receive, receive and broadcast news and ideas by any means, without restricting geographical boundaries..)

The European Charter of 1950, the American Charter of Human Rights in 1969 and the African Charter of Human and People's Rights in 1979 also emphasized the importance of the right to express opinion, foremost of which is the International Covenant on Civil and Political Human Rights Act, which expressly states that "every human being has the right to hold opinions without harassment" and to scrutinize The term "without harassment" means that a human being is a free social being who is free to embrace what he wants at some point and is also free to express those beliefs, customs or opinions without being harassed, pressured, harmed, coerced or forced by any party, whether that body is an official or informal government entity or even the social frameworks in which they may be present.

- **International and regional laws and conventions that concern the human right to opinion and expression include:**
- The Declaration of French Human Rights issued after the French Revolution in 1789, issued by the National Assembly on August 26, 1789, is the first to emphasize the importance of the right to express opinion as it is one of the basic documents of the French Revolution, which defines the individual and collective rights of the nation, and its issuance was influenced by enlightenment thought, theories of the social contract and natural rights to which intellectuals such as Jean-Jacques Rousseau, John Locke, Voltaire and Montesquieu champion, the first step in drafting the Constitution.
- One of the articles issued expressing freedom of opinion and expression is article 11, which states that "freedom to disseminate ideas and opinions is the right of every human being. Every human being can speak, write and publish his opinions freely. But he has to entrust what he writes in matters provided for by law.



- Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stipulates that "everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression... This right includes the freedom to hold opinions without any interference, to receive, and broadcast news and ideas by any means, without restricting geographical boundaries"
- The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights in Article (19) in paragraphs 1 and 2 also guarantees the right to freedom and expression and the text of the Arab Charter of Human Rights 2004 in Article 32 of the Charter that "everyone has the right to information, freedom of opinion and expression, as well as the right to News and ideas are derived, received and transmitted to others by any means and without regard to geographical boundaries; these rights and freedoms are exercised within the basic elements of society and are subject only to restrictions imposed by respect for the rights or reputation of others, the protection of national security, public order, public health or public morals .

Therefore, in order to understand the aim of this research, we go to the fact that the twenty-first decade has witnessed many violations that have occurred to media centers in general and journalists in particular, and these violations have varied between suspension and dismissal by the media centers themselves or from external attacks emanating from government agencies, terrorist groups or citizens themselves, where such violations have often led to assassination, detention, beatings, banning and charges of certain issues .

This report, issued by the Research and Studies Unit of the Freedom of Opinion and Expression Programme, monitors during the first half of 2021 the crises in press freedom and tracks all forms of abuse during the reporting period.

Therefore, the report includes several sections the first section monitors the cases of arbitrary dismissal of journalists, in addition to expulsions abroad, while the second section monitors the cases of imprisonment and detention of journalists and the third section monitors cases of injuries and attacks on journalists, the fourth section addresses cases of murder and assassination and the fifth and final section offers clarification through statistical analyses explaining all forms of violations suffered by journalists.

**First: cases of arbitrary dismissal and expulsion of journalists from January 1 to May 31, 2021 .**



1. Emily Wilder, an American journalist with the Associated Press, received the decision to dismiss her after only 17 days, despite the statement of her business managers that she was distinguished in her work and the decision to dismiss the journalist was due to the discovery of the former university activity news agency "Lymley", which was issued after the right wing media focused on its university activity as it belonged to the group "Jewish Voice for Peace" which works to support the Palestinians. Despite Emily Wilder's statement to The Guardian in which she argued that she had not received any concrete clarification from the agency of those accusations on the basis of which her dismissal had been made, she had used only the usual political terminology that did not reflect bias towards specific issues or entities. However, the agency's radio said the journalist had violated the agency's policies and sided with specific issues. Despite recent statements by the director of the agency that the agency was wrong in taking the decision to dismiss the journalist, the agency has not yet reversed the decision to dismiss the journalist.
2. Rebecca Ross, a U.S. journalist at the U.S. Embassy in Russia, on April 21, received a letter about the suspension of her work at the U.S. Embassy in Russia, which was a response to the decisions taken by the United States of America on April 15, where the United States expelled 10 Russian diplomats from the embassy and prevented them from entering Washington.
3. Simon Marks, Irish correspondent for The New York Times: On May 26, 2021, the Ethiopian government expelled Simon Marks out of the country after monitoring violations caused by the civil war in Tigray province, and the government justified that decision by claiming that the journalist reached the end of his legal stay in the country. Contrary to the government's claims, the statements of the reporter "Simon Marks" included that the Ethiopian authorities did not allow him to return to his home despite the validity of his residence permit and that they detained him at the airport for eight hours.
4. Musab Turan, Turkish journalist with the Turkish Anatolian Agency, on Friday, May 27, 2021, the agency issued a decision to dismiss the journalist, and that decision was issued after the journalist put forward a number of



questions to find out the relationship of the current Turkish Interior Minister with mafia leader "Sadat Bakr" Statements published by mafia leader Sadat Bakr and his disclosure of the relationship between him and a group of current and former ministers, and as a result the Turkish Anatolia agency attributed a number of accusations "to Musab Turan", first of which was being accused of belonging to terrorist organizations in addition to asking the agency to investigate the reporter.

5. Nasser AbuBakar, Palestinian journalist on the French agency AFP: On May 31, 2021, the French agency issued a decision to dismiss the 20 year veteran journalist Nasser Abu Bakr. The agency issued that decision about being subjected to calls by the Israeli occupation authorities to prosecute the journalist for monitoring attacks committed by the occupying authorities against Palestinians and trying to bring the aggressors before the International Criminal Court on charges of war crimes and violations of international law.

### **Second: Cases of imprisonment, arrest and kidnapping of journalists from January 1 to May 31, 2021**

1. Hopwell Chinono, a freelance Zimbabwean journalist, was arrested by police on January 2, 2021, on charges of inciting violence and promoting false information. Prosecutors released him on April 28, 2011, as the prosecution stated that the police had arrested the journalist in accordance with a repealed law, which is why the prosecution dropped the charge against him. The police targeted the journalist several times, as they had arrested him three times in less than six months.
2. Ali Saleh, a photographer for the channel "Zakours", was arrested by Iraqi security forces on January 8, 2021 reporter "Ali Saleh" and a photographer of the channel "Zakours" by monitoring the protests organized by the people in the area of Nasiriyah, where People protested in the center of the South Square to demand the release of activists who were arrested in the past months.
3. Ayham Abdul Aziz al-Khalaf, the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) detained on January 9, 2021, Syrian media activist "Ayham Abdul Aziz al-Khalaf", who works for the Ain Al-Furat news network, and was charged with filming without permission.



4. Akram Abu Shalbak, a Palestinian journalist and media journalist and director of the Way One network, was arrested by Palestinian security forces on January 13, 2021, and released after eight days of detention on January 21, 2021.
5. Kaddes al-Samrani, a journalist, was arrested on January 15, 2021, Iraqi security services journalist "Kaddus al-Samrani", who works at a rights center to support freedom of expression, on charges of insulting Anbar operations commander Nasser al-Ghannam.
6. Wadah Mohieddin, journalist and director of *Bokaat Al-Doe* magazine, was arrested on January 17, 2021, a journalist and director of *The Bokaat Al-Doe* magazine in Aleppo, the authorities did not explain the reasons for the arrest.
7. . Hala Al-Jarf, T.V Presenter, was arrested the media authorities "Hala Al-Jarf" on January 23, 2021 she criticized through her personal social media page the living conditions in Syria, and the authorities accused her of a number cases related to cybercrime.
- .8. Fener Timi, an independent Syrian media activist, it was announced on January 23, 2021, that the journalist had been kidnapped by Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria affiliated groups run by the P.Y.D. Party in Qamishli, Syria.
- .9. Mohammed Zain, a reporter and media activist, arrested on January 28, 2021 by the Lebanese army, while covering the clashes between demonstrators and army elements.
10. Adel Abu Nema, a television cameraman "Reuters" was detained by Israeli forces on January 28 while covering the demolition of the homes of Palestinians in the *Wadi Al-Ahmar* area; he was released about an hour later.
- .11. Wafa Suleiman Abu Sorour, a photographer for the Palestinian News Agency, was detained by Israeli forces on January 28 while covering the demolition of Palestinian homes in the *Wadi Al-Ahmar* area and released about an hour later.
- .12. Omar Abu Awad, a Palestinian television cameraman detained by Israeli forces on January 28 while covering the demolition of Palestinian homes in the *Wadi Al-Ahmar* area, was released about an hour later.





. 14 ، 13 Ahmed al-Qusayr, "Syria Tv Correspondent", Fadi Wahid , "Photographer", arrested on January 29, 2021, a reporter of the Syrian television channel "Ahmed Al-Qusayr" and photographer Fadi Wahid while returning from covering events in the city and the authorities released them after being detained for 13 hours.

15. .Ali Al-Wukaa, a media activist, was arrested on February 4th by SDF after his presence with the delegation of the international coalition in *Hageen* Hospital and was arrested by the forces because of speaking with the coalition coordinator in the organization and the place of detention is unknown until now, where the SDF denied its connection to the arrest of the journalist.

.16. Ahmed Said, a Palestinian Radio presenter on *Zaman* FM, was detained by Israeli occupation police officers on February 12, 2021 after a complaint by a dismissed lawyer against him; he was released hours later by the authorities.

.17. Ahmed Jalagel, an independent Palestinian journalist and photographer, was detained by Israeli police on February 23, 2021 for six hours on charges of "incitement" after covering a Palestinian event in the *Al-Tur* area on the Israeli sovereignty law, and released on bail to be re-investigated later.

.18. Ahmed Sufi, ARK TV correspondent, was arrested by the Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) on March 1, 2021, at a checkpoint near the city of Al-Malikia in the countryside of Hasaka province in northeastern Syria.

19. .Nathan Muang, An American journalist and editor-in-chief of the local private news site Kamiot Media, was arrested on March 9, 2021 by Myanmar military forces and detained in Insin prison in Yangon on charges of spreading false information and news under Article 505 and after being detained for a period of time he was released by the forces and deported out of the country.

.20. Hanthar Nyin, an American journalist with the local news site Kamiot Media, was arrested by Myanmar military forces on March 9, 2021 and detained in Insin prison in Yangon on charges of spreading false information and news under Article 505 and after being detained for a period of time was released by the forces and deported.



21. .Mu'tasim Al-Hadar, a freelance Palestinian photographer, was detained by Israeli forces on March 12, 2021 while passing through a military checkpoint east of Nablus without knowing the reason for the detention and was released after being detained for 6 hours.

.22 Abbas al-Marsomi, a media activist, was arrested on March 25, 2021 by the Kurdish people protection units, from his home in the town of Al-Baguz in Deir ez-Zor, in connection with a leaflet criticizing the international coalition forces and the Autonomous Administration of North and East Syria for the deteriorating situation in their area of control.

.23. Olivier Dubois, a French journalist for Le Point Afrique magazine and the newspaper Libération, on April 8, 2021, his abduction was confirmed by appearing in a video calling on the French authorities to rescue him from the kidnappers and returning them to al-Qaeda groups in Mali.

24. .Yuki Kitazumi, an independent Japanese journalist, was arrested in April 2021 by Myanmar's military authorities and held in Insin prison in Yangon for a month and released by troops at noon on Friday, May 14, 2021, after pressure by the Japanese government for his release as in late March, Japan announced that it would suspend new aid to Myanmar in response to the coup.

.25. Robert Bouchiaga, an independent Polish journalist, was arrested by the military coup authorities in April 2021 while covering protests and detained by the authorities for two weeks and then released and was deported from the country.

26. .Hassan al-Banna Mubarak, an Egyptian journalist, was detained on April 18, 2021, on charges of spreading false news, where al-Banna was detained in case No. 441 of 2018 for a month and then released him.

27. .Alaa Al-Rimawi, a Palestinian correspondent for Al-Jazeera and director of the media site "G Media", was arrested by the Israeli occupation authorities on April 21, 2021 while he was at his home and detained by the authorities at the Atsioun detention center north of Hebron He was interrogated by Israeli intelligence officers for his journalistic work and after trying to go on hunger strike for 16 days, the court decided to shorten his administrative detention, which is



imprisonment by Israeli military order without charging the prisoner, for up to 6 months, which can be extended. From 3 months to one and a half months and in the meantime he has been released.

.28. Tawfiq Ghanem, a retired Egyptian journalist who works as regional director of the Turkish Anatolia News Agency in the Cairo office, was arrested on May 21, 2021 and charged by the State Security Prosecution with several charges, chiefly belonging to a terrorist group.

.29. Muhannad Abu Ghosh, a Palestinian writer in a number of newspapers, was arrested by Israeli police while at home on charges of communicating with friends in the Arab world.

30. Danny Finster, an American journalist, was arrested on Monday, May 24, 2021 by the Myanmar military authorities, the American journalist and managing editor of the independent newspaper Frontier Myanmar, "Danny Finster", was arrested during his trip to Malaysia, after several articles were published explaining the repressive campaigns waged by the military authorities since the first day of the coup, after Danny explained in his article entitled "Rebel areas in Myanmar receive thousands of people fleeing the unrest." However, as a result of the crackdowns carried out by the military authorities, nearly 7,000 refugees fled to the Karen National Union, which is one of the largest armed groups in Myanmar to escape the attacks carried out by the coup. On February 1, 2021, the democratic government witnessed a military coup in Myanmar, and Myanmar has witnessed almost daily unrest since the army seized power. The "Help Political Prisoners" group in Myanmar reported that the army killed more than 800 demonstrators and arrested more than 4,300 people. These arrest campaigns included workers in the media sector, where more than 70 journalists were arrested. In addition to this there have been raids launched by the authorities on some media centers and others had their media permits cancelled. Moreover, a ban on news broadcasting via satellite and the restriction of access to electronic networks (the Internet) has been put into effect.

### **Third: Use of violence against journalists from January 1 to May 31, 2021**



1. In January 2021, LBCI cameraman Yahya Habashi was assaulted by some citizens while covering police raids on cafes on the first day of the total closure law issued by government agencies to reduce the spread of the Corona virus in Lebanon .
2. On January 10, 2021, reporter Nasser Hamed al-Keji and a group of press crews were prevented from covering the military parade ceremony by the information officer of the police command, and things escalated into verbal abuse and threats of violence .
3. On January 13, 2021, Israeli police beat freelance journalist Reham Osmana while covering protests against the visit of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, in addition to preventing her from participating in a press conference held in the municipality .
4. On January 16, 2021, some police officers beat the Asia channel reporter Mohammed Farid and photographer Alaa Jabbar while covering the protests carried out by the people of Al-Sayedia area in Iraq.
5. On January 25, 2021, Lebanese security forces beat Ibrahim Fathth, a reporter for Voice of Beirut International, while covering Lebanese protests against the economic situation and rejecting the lockdown decision in Lebanon .
6. On January 26, 2021, Israeli police assaulted reporter Mutasim Maswara, a reporter for the website "Bakra", during his coverage of protests over widespread violence in um al-Fahm city.
7. On April 23, 2021, Israeli forces targeted Reporter Khaled Badir, a Palestinian correspondent for al-Ghad channel, with a gas bomb towards his foot while covering the clashes that broke out in west of the city of Tarlkarm against Palestinian forces and youths .
8. On January 24, 2021, Al-Arabi tv correspondent Mazen al-Qabar was prevented from covering the strike by students at Basira University in Iraq by the Dean of the Faculty of Science .
9. On April 24, 2021, Israeli occupation forces targeted reporter Hafiz Abu Sabra, a correspondent for The Vision of Jordan, and hit him with a gas bomb in his chest. Tarek Youssef, a correspondent for Al Jazeera, was



also targeted with a similar bomb that hit him in the head. The crew of al-Ghad tv, which included reporter Khaled Badir, photographer Hazem Nasser, and G Media correspondent Mahmoud Matar, were nearly suffocated as a result of inhaling bomb gas while covering clashes between soldiers and Palestinian youths at the Hawara military checkpoint south of Nablus.

15. .On January 30, 2021, journalist Hisham Ali received a death threat after trying to uncover financial corruption files linked to the head of the Public Pension Authority, Ahmed Al-Saadi, and Bahaa Abdul Hussein, director of KeyCard.

16. .On April 24, Israeli police targeted Mahmoud Alian, an Associated Press photographer with sound grenades, causing severe burns while covering the weekly anti-settlement demonstration in Sheikh Jarrah in Jerusalem.

17. .On April 25, 2021, a member of the Field Control Agency of the Military Apparatus of Hamas attacked Rawa Murshid, a presenter of a program on local radio "*Zaman FM*", beating and cursing while preparing a press report at a vital farm in the village of Juhr al-Deek in the eastern Gaza Strip.

.18.On April 26, 2021, a group of police officers from the Ministry of Interior attacked Sami al-Jabari, a freelance journalist, in the Shujaiya neighborhood east of Gaza City, and interrogated him for hours on charges of calling for demonstrations in support of Jerusalem.

.19. On May 18, 2021, Ahmed Sharif, a photojournalist at Safa Agency, was injured by shrapnel from a sound grenade while covering the events in Sheikh Jarrah neighborhood during clashes between the Israeli occupation forces and the resistance.

.20. On May 18, 2021, journalist Rama Youssef, a *safa* journalist, was hit by a rubber bullet in the leg during the clashes in sheikh Jarrah during clashes between the Israeli occupation forces and the resistance.

21. .Israeli forces prevented photographer Magdi Mohammed, a photographer with the Flasha 90 news agency, from covering a popular event near the Ain Al-Sakout area on the Jordanian-Palestinian border, far south of the Jordan-



Palestine border, and one of the female soldiers fired a gas bomb at Mohammed before being forced to leave at gunpoint.

.22. On June 5, the Israeli occupation forces beat journalist Guevara Al-Dabiri, a correspondent for Al-Jazeera Gaza, destroying her press equipment and then arresting her

#### **Fourth: murders and assassinations of journalists from January 1 to May 31, 2021**

1. On January 6, 2021, Syrian television correspondent Bahaa al-Halabi was subjected to an assassination attempt by some armed individuals, where the gunmen fired a number of bullets at him, which led to his transfer to central care as he was seriously injured. He was targeted while he was at home. The city of Al-Bab in Syria has witnessed several assassinations of activists and journalists because they are under the control of armed elements .
2. On February 4, 2021, Lebanese security forces found Luqman Salim, a writer and activist at the Umam Research Center, killed by four bullets in his head inside his car in Nabatiyeh province, where he was tortured before being killed, hours after his disappearance was reported as he was returning from Southern Neha to his home, where contact was lost with him .
3. On May 9, 2021, the Ethiopian authorities announced the killing of Sesay Vida, an Ethiopian journalist for the Oromo Radio Network, by the Aung Shini armed group while returning from a wedding. The Oromo Radio Network indicated that the journalist was defending the human rights issues of the Ethiopian people.
4. On April 22, 2021, the Israeli police assaulted Rajai Al-Khatib, a Jordanian TV cameraman, and the occupation forces targeted the photographer with a rubber bullet that hit him in the foot.
5. On May 19, 2021, the house of broadcaster Youssef Abu Al-Hassan, broadcaster at Al-Aqsa Radio, was targeted by the Israeli reconnaissance aircraft.



6. On Thursday, June 3, 2021, the Afghan media announced the killing of media anchor, "Mina Khairy" and her mother, and the injury of her sister, as a result of the explosion of an explosive device on a public transport bus - a minibus - in western Kabul.

**Fifth: Violation of digital rights:**

1. The Cybercrime Branch arrested the Syrian journalist "Kinan Waqaf" after he was summoned in Damascus, without knowing the reasons behind his arrest two days after his summoning.
2. The Office for Combating Information Crimes and Protection of Intellectual Property arrested the Lebanese citizen "Saeed Abdullah" by a decision of the Attorney General's office for a period of 24 hours. He was charged with "insulting the symbols of the Druze community" after a complaint submitted by the Golden Council of the Unitarian Druze sect.
3. On April 13, 2021, the Jordanian official TV decided to ban the broadcast of the Jordanian Ramadan series "Umm Al-Daraham" by the Syrian writer Zaki Mardini, on the pretext that it carries a political content and despite the writer's assertion that the series is not related to recent events in Jordan, specifically the case of Prince Hamzah, but rather is A village work inspired by international theatrical stories, so that the text does not mimic Jordan in particular.
4. On March 16, 2021, the Jordanian authorities blocked the live broadcast more than once on the "Facebook" and "Twitter" websites, due to the protests and demonstrations that took place in Jordan after the events of the "Al-Salt Hospital Disaster" that led to the death of nine people, and "Facebook" confirmed in On March 26, 28 international human rights organizations sent an open letter to Prime Minister Bishr Al-Khasawneh, calling on him to immediately stop blocking the internet during the protests taking place in the Jordanian streets.
5. On March 18, 2021, the Jordanian authorities blocked the "Club House" application without explaining the reasons. Users of the application said that the blocking occurred because of the bold and hot topics that the



audio rooms in the application deal with as titles for discussion, the most important of which are the rooms that dealt with the “*Al-Salt* Hospital disaster”, as well as other audio rooms dealt with the aftermath of the traumatic incident.

6. On March 29, 2021, the “Information Crimes” office investigated the activist, Ragheb Al-Shoufi, after he was summoned because of his publications. The Office for Combating Information Crimes and Protection of Property questioned him, three days after he was summoned and detained according to the accusation against him of insulting the Minister of Interior and Municipalities Mohamed Fahmy through publications. On Facebook, after the investigation was over, Al-Shoufi signed a pledge not to insult at all on social media.
7. On May 21, 2021, 17 personal accounts of journalists affiliated with the Associated Press in Gaza were banned. The journalists confirmed that their WhatsApp accounts were banned on Friday and were recovered by midday on Monday. It also included banning the accounts of 4 journalists working for Al-Jazeera in addition to the two journalists. Al-Ahrar, and Al-Jazeera explained that when they sought information about reasons behind the ban, the Facebook official told them that the company had banned a number of groups located in Gaza, and therefore the mobile phone numbers of Al-Jazeera journalists were part of those groups that were banned. The blocking of those accounts was not an isolated incident.
8. On June 4, 2021, the Nigerian President “Hassan Al-Bukhari” issued a decision banning the use of Twitter in Nigeria. This decision came after Twitter deleted Hassan Al-Bukhari’s tweet, which it described as inciting violence and encouraging the establishment of a new civil war, which may be similar to the civil war that had erupted before. The tweet contained a threat by convicted groups of attacks on government buildings. While the justifications of the Nigerian government went that the decision to ban the application was taken due to other considerations and not as a reaction to the deletion of President Hassan Al-Bukhari’s tweet, where the government made a number of accusations against Twitter, including spreading false news and promoting misinformation that works to destabilize the country.





The following is a table showing the arrests from the period from January 1 to May 31, 2021

Result	Accusation	Event	Employer	Nationality	Name	Date of Arrest	no
Released	Incitement to violence and spreading false information	Arrest	Freelance	Zimbabwean	Hopewell Chinonu	2/1/2021	1
Released	Monitoring protests in Nasiriyah	Arrest	Zakours Channel	Iraqi	Ali Saleh	8/1/2021	2
Released	photo-shoot without permission	Detainment	Eye of the Euphrates news network	Syrian	Iham Abdelaziz Khalaf	9/1/2021	3
Released	Unstated	Arrest	Way One Network	Palestinian	Ekram Shalbak	13/1/2021	4
Released	Insulting commander of Anbar operations	Arrest	Rights Center to Support Freedom of Expression	Iraqi	Quds Al-Samarani	15/1/2021	5
In Custody	Unstated	Arrest	Bokaat Al-Doe Magazine	Syrian	Waddah Mohyeldin	17/1/2021	6
In Custody	Cybercrimes	Arrest	Syrian TV	Syrian	Hala Al-Jarf	23/1/2021	7
Unknown	–	Kidnapped	Journalist Netwrok	Syrian	Fener Timi	23/1/2021	8
In custody	Communicating with Arab friends	Arrest	Writer For Several papers	Palestinian	Mohanad Abo-Ghawash	5/1/2021	
Released	Incitement to violence and spreading false information	Arrest	Freelance Journalist	Lebanese	Mohamed Zain	28/1/2021	9



<b>Released</b>	Unstated	Detainment	Al-Quds Network	Palestinian	Adel Abo Neaima	28/1/2021	10
<b>Released</b>	Unstated	Detainment	Palestinian News Agency	Palestinian	Selman Abo Sorour	28/1/2021	11
<b>Released</b>	Unstated	Detainment	Palestinian TV	Palestinian	Omar Abo Awad	28/1/2021	12
<b>Released</b>	Unstated	Arrest	Syria TV	Lebanese	Ahmed Al-Qusayar	29/1/2021	13
<b>Released</b>	Unstated	Arrest	Syria TV	Lebanese	Fady Wahid	29/1/2021	14
<b>Released</b>	Unstated	Arrest	Freelance Journalist	Syrian	Ali El-Wukaa	4/2/2021	15
<b>In Custody</b>	Talking to the coalition coordinator without permission	Detainment	“Zaman” FM	Palestinian	Ahmed Said	12/2/2021	16
<b>Released</b>	Complaints Filed Against Him	Detainment	Freelance Journalist	Palestinian	Ahmed Galagel	23/2/2021	17
<b>Released</b>	Incitement to violence and spreading false information	Arrest	ARK TV	Syrian	Ahmed Sufi	1/3/2021	18
<b>Released</b>	Unstated	Arrest	Kamiot Media Website	American	Nathan Muang	9/3/2021	19
<b>Released</b>	Publishing False Information	Arrest	Kamiot Media Website	American	Hanthar Nyin	9/3/2021	20



<b>Released</b>	Publishing False Information	Detainment	Freelance Photographer	Palestinian	Moatasem Saqf Al-heit	12/3/2021	<b>21</b>
<b>Released</b>	Unstated	Arrest	Media Activist	Syrian	Abbas Al-Marsomi	25/3/2021	<b>22</b>
<b>In Custody</b>	Criticism of the situation in Syria	Kidnapped	Le Point Afrique magazine	French	Olivier Dubois	8/4/2021	<b>23</b>
<b>Released</b>	Publishing False Information	Arrest	Freelance Journalist	Japanese	Yuki Kitazumi	4/2021	<b>24</b>
<b>Released</b>	Publishing False Information	Arrest	Freelance Journalist	Polish	Robert Bushiga	4/1/2021	<b>25</b>
<b>Released</b>	Publishing False Information	Detainment	Egypt 360	Egyptian	Hassan El-Bana	18/4/2021	<b>26</b>
<b>Released</b>	Publishing False Information	Arrest	Al-Jazeera	Palestinian	Alaa El-Remawi	21/4/2021	<b>27</b>
<b>Released</b>	Practicing Journalistic work	Arrest	Anatolian Agency	Egyptian	Tawfik Ghanem	21/5/2021	<b>28</b>
<b>In Custody</b>	Affiliation with terrorist groups	Detainment	Al-Quds Network	Palestinian	Adel Abo Neaima	28/1/2021	<b>29</b>
<b>Released</b>	Publishing False Information	Arrest	Frontier Mynammar	American	Danny Finister	24/5/2021	<b>31</b>
<b>Released</b>	Attack on security forces	Arrest	Al-Jazeera	Palestinian	Guevara Al-Dabiri	5/6/2021	<b>32</b>

**Table showing cases of dismissal, assault and murder from January 1 to May 31, 2021**

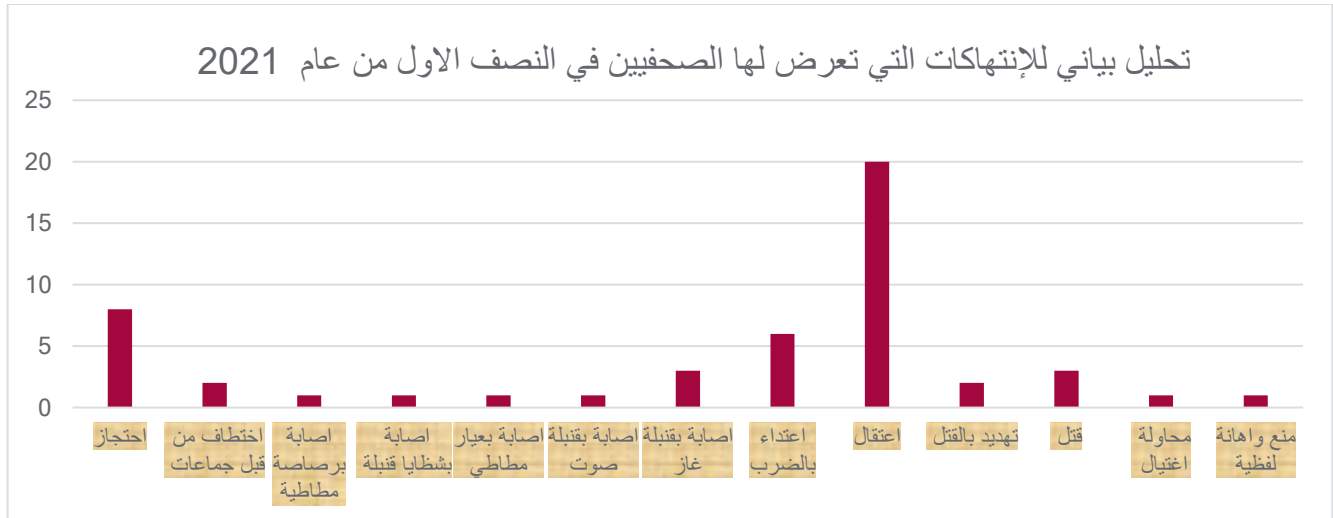


Event	Employer	Name	Date	
Assault	LBCI	Yehia Habahsy	7/1/2021	1
Prohibition and verbal insult	Freelance Journalist	Nasser Hamed	10/1/2021	2
Assault	Freelance Journalist	Reham Othmania	13/1/2021	3
Assault	Correspondent	Mohamed Farid	16/1/2021	4
Assault	Photographer	Alaa Gabar	16/1/2021	5
Assault	Beirut International Website	Ibrahim Fathth	25/1/2021	6
Death Threats	Correspondent for Bokra Website	Moatasem Masora	26/1/2021	7
Injured by Shrapnel	Safa Agency	Ahmed Sherif	18/1/2021	8
Death Threats	Presenter	Hesham Ali	30/1/2021	9
Injured by Rubber Bullet	Safa Agency	Rama Youssef	18/5/2021	10
Assassination Attempt	Syrian TV Correspondent	Bahaa El-Halaby	6/1/2021	11
Murder	Umam Research Center	Lukman Selman	4/2/2021	12
Murder	Oromo Radio	Sisay Veda	9/5/2021	13
Injured by Rubber Bullet	Jordanian TV	Ragai Al-Khateeb	22/4/2021	14



<b>Injured by Gas Bomb</b>	Al-Ghad TV Channel	Khalid Badir	23/4/2021	15
<b>Injured by Gas Bomb</b>	Ru'yaa Jordanian	Hafez Abo Sabra	24/4/2021	16
<b>Injured by Gas Bomb</b>	G Media Network	Hazem Nassar	24/4/2021	17
<b>Injured by Sound Grenade</b>	Associated Press	Mahmoud Elian	24/4/2021	18
<b>Assault</b>	" Zaman" FM	Ruaa Murshed	25/4/2021	19
<b>Assault</b>	Freelance Jorunalist	Sami El-Gaabari	26/4/2021	20
<b>Murder</b>	Jerusalem Broadcasting	Youssef Abul Hassan	19/5/2021	21

According to the statistical analysis, many violations that have been practiced against journalists have been monitored, where arrests came in the first place, followed by cases of detention for a period of time, then physical and psychological violence, death threats, actual killing and kidnapping.





### Recommendations:

- 1- Compliance with the laws and legislations that preserve press rights and the rights of expression of opinion by all governmental and non-governmental agencies.
- 2- Activating the laws concerned with freedom of expression and the press and repealing the laws that obstruct them.
- 3- Providing a safe working environment for journalists in general and in particular in areas of armed conflict.
- 4- Ensuring the exercise of freedoms of the press and expression of opinion.
- 5- Enhancing respect for the right of journalists and not practicing any form of violence, whether physical or psychological.