

## Item 12

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# Resolution # 5 – Freedom from fear in the creative industries

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According to the latest information of the United Nations, more than 1 200 journalists and media workers have been killed between 2006 and 2020. We have witnessed filmmakers, artists and other cultural workers being targeted and killed because of their works. The threat of oppression is widespread across all creative industries and concerns all workers.

The report 2021 on the state of artistic freedom reveals that thousands of artists and other workers in the creative industries were known to be attacked, threatened, prosecuted, detained, imprisoned, intimidated, or censored. The report underlines that gender, sexual and racial discrimination are widely practiced in many societies targeting workers because of their personal identity, or work tackling these issues. The targeting of women and LGBTQ+ persons and ethnic minorities has risen.

Working members are facing increasingly digital harassment and violence in connection with their work and when standing up for their and their colleagues' freedoms and rights. Social platforms have not taken coherent, transparent, and effective measures to protect artists, journalists and all media and entertainment workers against online violence. The non-respect of online privacy has become part of the key challenges to freedom of expression.

The global conference on the future of broadcasting of October 2019 has underlined the many challenges and attacks that we are confronted with in the global digital economy. The attack on freedom of expression extends to the undermining of the independence of the media by state actors and has been a major concern for members unions. The closure of the Philippine commercial broadcaster ABC-CBN, the attacks on the independence of public broadcasters and trade unionists defending media freedom in countries such as Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Morocco, Pakistan, Poland, Slovenia, Switzerland, and Turkey workers have mobilised UNI MEI and led to extensive solidarity campaigns.

We rise to defend the right to freedom of expression. We are committed to protect workers in the creative industries from fear of discrimination, harassment, persecution, and violence. We support member unions in need to leverage their advocacy and to amplify their efforts to defend members who are harassed, attacked, or discriminated against. We take action to facilitate union-to-union cooperation regarding the defence of and advocacy for the rights of all groups of workers who face barriers to the exercise of their right of freedom of expression. We support initiatives that aim at defending the freedoms of women, LGBTQ+ persons and ethnic minorities. We provide a global

platform for joint union action to strengthen the voice of these groups in the unions and at the workplace. We stand up against actions by authorities, employers, and online gatekeepers to encroach on the online privacy at work and undertake action to build our collective capacity to protect members from digital surveillance.

We are committed to strengthen our engagement with governments and authorities at national, regional, and global level to address illegitimate restrictions of the freedom of association and the freedom of expression and to advocate for the harmonisation of national legislation on freedom of expression and cultural rights with international human rights standards. We support unions in their efforts to get governments and authorities to refrain from unlawfully criminalising the voices of media, arts and entertainment workers dissenting in the digital environment.

We step up our cooperation with sister organisations and civil society organisations and will join the Global Action Network for Artistic Freedom and support and contribute to its work.

We rise to campaign for media freedoms and the independence of the media. We give priority to assist member unions in need of support to defend the independence of the media and the workers being attacked for standing-up for media freedoms. We campaign to support legislative initiatives that seek to strengthen media freedoms and the independence of the media offline and online and support awareness raising initiatives. We are united in the support for the development of strong, independent, and sustainable public broadcasting as part of pluralistic media sector. We take joint action to promote the investment in the development of public broadcasting as part of the digital media economy.