



UMBRELLA



INFO NEWSLETTER

Umbrella newsletter second edition brings you:

- Criminal Code at the Constitutional Court
- Investigative stories and texts covering the issue of „Criminalization of defamation/libeling in Republic of Srpska “
- Final judgement / decision analysis
- Press releases
- Education and trainings for Umbrella members
- Events and venues



CRIMINAL CODE AT THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT

BANJA LUKA, 19 SEPTEMBER 2023



On 19 September 2023, the team of legal experts, appointed by Umbrella, submitted to the Constitutional Court of Republic of Srpska, [the initiative \(inicijativu\)](#) demanding the assessment and evaluation of Criminal Code amendments of Republic of Srpska that de facto criminalized defamation/libeling.

INVESTIGATIVE STORIES AND TEXTS COVERING THE ISSUE OF „CRIMINALIZATION OF DEFAMATION/LIBELING IN REPUBLIC OF SRPSKA“

In cooperation with Umbrella members and their support, we managed to post five investigative stories regarding the issue of „Criminalization of defamation/libeling in Republic of Srpska “. Let us together make thorough analysis, interviews and detailed investigations that reveal and expose in what way shall the re – criminalization of defamation/libeling make impact on media liberties and freedom and public expression in BiH.



In first investigative reporting text, posted by [Portal Capital](#), the authors problematized the ban of public releasing of “personal character list”, in regard with most recent Criminal Code amendments: [Kazna za novinare za objavu matičnog broja.](#)

In second investigative text, posted by [Interview.ba](#), legal challenges and concrete solutions, regarding the protection of both female and male journalists, have been subject to detailed analysis: [KRIMINALIZACIJA KLEVETE Kako zaštititi novinare, bez suvišnog zašto?](#)



In third investigative report text, posted by [Inforadar](#), legal instruments used to protect journalists and freedom of speech have been investigated: [NOVINARSKA PRAVA I KLEVETA: Mehanizmi zaštite novinara i slobode govora.](#)

In fourth investigative text, posted by [Spin-portal](#), the authors problematized the number of legal lawsuits concerning the defamation/libeling in the city of East Sarajevo: [Tužbi za klevetu nisu pošteđeni ni novinari iz istočnog dijela Republike Srpske.](#)



In fifth investigative text, posted by [Hercegovina info](#), the authors investigated what may happen when someone press charges against you based on defamation/libeling and you happen to be in Herzegovina, Serbia or Croatia: [30-ak prijava zbog klevete u RS-u. Evo što se događa ako vas netko prijavi, a vi ste u Hercegovini, Srbiji ili Hrvatskoj.](#)

Legal chart of judgments: Final judgement / decision analysis



The Analysis of final judgments / decisions in case of Edin Mušić Vs Tačno.net (a local web site)



The Analysis of final judgments / decisions in case of JP BH Pošta d.o.o. Sarajevo and Tačno.net (a local web site) spokesperson

Education and trainings for Umbrella members

PRESS RELEASES

JUDGEMENTS AGAINST TAČNO.NET
(LOCAL WEB SITE)
JEOPARDIZE THE WORK OF INVESTIGATIVE
MEDIA HOUSES



23 November 2023

Training for Umbrella members regarding the reporting adopted to Criminal Code amendments on defamation/libeling in Republic of Srpska in order to have Umbrella members as much as possibly protected while they tailor and make their investigative texts. Training was supported by BMAPF project financed by the USAID and was implemented Internews in the Balkan. Senad Pećanin, a lawyer and experienced professional journalist and former editor of Dani, a local weekly magazine from Sarajevo, held and ran this this training.



12 September 2023

Training for Umbrella members from Sarajevo, Mostar and Trebinje with strengthened and reinforced capacities of journalists as well, including the editing office and need to advance physical and digital safety. This training was also conducted in cooperation with KRIK from Serbia and supported by BMAPF Internews program



11 September 2023., Banjaluka

Training for Umbrella members from Banjaluka with 22 journalists having their capacities strengthened and reinforced in relation with safety culture development branch, including security protocols that would enable safer job performance for all journalists. Training was held in cooperation with KRIK from Serbia and supported by BMAPF Internews program.



EVENTS

26 and 27 September 2023 Mostar

Meeting between Umbrella members with focus on actual and current topics and issues from media liberties and freedoms, limiting the freedom of joining and developing internal tools required for better exchange and share of media contents between Umbrella members. This particular meeting also served to hold Assembly Meeting Session of all Umbrella members, dedicated to strengthening and reinforcing of cooperation and promotion of mutual values amongst members. Open and productive exchange of various ideas marked the meeting session, highlighting the strengthening and reinforcing mutual cooperation, advancing Umbrella activities and establishing stronger and more powerful ties and bonds between Umbrella members.

„Follow our work in the future, because with 13 investigative media houses, under the common wing we shall create the mosaic of diversities, investigations and journalists' courage.”

