

# **The role and impact of media in divided societies and conflict-ridden democracies: the case of the conflict over Kosovo**

A three day Workshop with Serb and Kosovar Albanian Journalists.

Organized in the framework of the Early Warning Project coordinated by International Alert and supported by the EU Instrument for Stability

Athens 9-12 March 2011

## **Draft Programme**

### **Wednesday 9 March**

Morning and Afternoon: arrival of participants

17:30 Welcome and introductory remarks by **Associate Professor Dimitris Sotiropoulos**, University of Athens; S. Costopoulos Senior Research Fellow, ELIAMEP

18:00-19:30 **The mass media and democracy in Eastern Europe today**  
Keynote speech by **Professor Jan Zielonka**, University of Oxford

Discussion

20:00 Dinner with workshop participants  
Keynote speech by the Deputy Minister of Culture **Mr. Tylemachos Hytiris** (tbc)

### **Thursday 10 March**

09:30-11:00 **Mass media, economy and the state**  
Chair **Professor Stylianos Papathanassopoulos**, University of Athens,  
*A discussion with journalists and experts who have worked in the region. Overview of the mass media field in Kosovo and Serbia: private ownership patterns and state regulation of the press and electronic media. Differences between print and electronic media.*

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 **The political, social and cultural context of journalist's work**  
Chair **Ms. Astrid Reinprecht**, European University Institute, Florence

*The dominant local and professional cultures reigning among journalists; multiple pressures on and demands from journalists; what do local journalists believe in?*

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:30 **The journalists look upon themselves**

Chair: **Mr. Tassos Telloglou**, *Kathimerini* newspaper

*What is to be a journalist in a conflict-ridden or post-conflict society? The escalating and de-escalating roles of journalists in instances of ethnic conflict; lessons from examples journalists contributing to reconciliation and counter-examples of fueling hostility.*

15:30-16:00 A first look at possible projects to be carried out by workshop participants after the end of the workshop, when they return to their bases

Free evening

### **Friday 11 March**

09:30-11:00 **Social Responsibility and Ethics in the work of a journalist**

Chair **Ms. Sonja Licht**, President of the Belgrade Fund for Political Excellence

*The balance between editorial independence and social responsibility; the mix of diversity and impartiality; the tensions between freedom of expression and condemning hate speech*

11:00-11:30 Coffee Break

11:30-13:00 **Educating journalists**

Chair **Dr. Ioannis Armakolas**, EKEM; University of Macedonia

*Good practices in the training of journalists. Lessons from other conflict-ridden and post-conflict societies.*

13:00-14:00 Lunch Break

14:00-15:30 **Thinking out of the box: the future of journalism in Kosovo and Serbia**

Chair **Mr. Veton Surroi**, Chairman of the Board, Foreign Policy Club, Pristina

*The prospects of reform of the mass media sector; possibilities of change on the way to integration into the European Union*

15:30-16:30 Concluding Remarks and guidelines for projects to be carried out by workshop participants after they return to their bases

20.00 Farewell Dinner

**Sunday 12 March**

Departure