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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	AOB for the meeting of the Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council on 27 and 28 November 2025: Safety of Journalists as a Prerequisite for Media Freedom - <i>Information from Slovenia</i>

Safety of Journalists as a Prerequisite for Media Freedom

Information from Slovenia

As a member of both the European Union and the United Nations Security Council, the Republic of Slovenia places strong emphasis on the protection and promotion of media freedom and the safety of journalists worldwide.

Recently, Slovenia had the honour of hosting Mr Naser Abu Baker, President of the Palestinian Journalists' Syndicate, who informed us of the urgent and deeply concerning situation facing Palestinian journalists and journalism. Over the past years – and particularly in recent months – Palestinian journalists have been exposed to disproportionate threats, harassment, and even lethal violence while carrying out their professional duty of informing the public.

The ability of journalists to work safely and independently is not only a matter of press freedom, but also a reflection of our collective commitment to human rights, democracy, and international law.

Attacks on journalists anywhere undermine the universal principles that underpin our societies and our shared European values.

If we are to build a truly resilient European Democracy Shield, we must acknowledge that our defence of press freedom must be universal, consistent, and non-selective. Media freedom cannot stop at Europe's borders; it is a global responsibility.

Slovenia therefore proposes that this issue be noted in the Council's wider discussions and that we, as European ministers responsible for media and culture, consider ways to reinforce our common call for the equal protection of journalists everywhere, regardless of political sensitivities or geopolitical alignments.
