

Freedom, Journalism and Religion

July 5, 6 and 7, 2013
Al-Bustan Hotel, Beit Mery

Day 1 – Friday, July 5, 2013 – OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

10:30 – 11:00 Registration and welcome coffee

11:00 – 11:30 Opening session

- Ralf Erbel – *Resident Representative in Jordan and for Lebanon, Syria and Iraq, Friedrich Naumann Foundation*
- Christophe Dehlinger – *Coordinator for the Mediterranean Region, Canal France International*
- Angelina Eichhorst – *Head of the European Union Delegation to Lebanon*

Cases of censorship under religious motives

- Ayman Mhanna – *Executive Director, SKeyes Center for Media and Cultural Freedom*

11:30 – 13:00 Religion, freedom of speech and communication strategy of religious institutions

- Marwan Al-Husayni – *Royal Institute for Interfaith Studies*
- Dr. Mohieldine Afifi – *Dean, Faculty of Islamic Sciences, Al-Azhar University*
- Father Georges Massouh – *Balamand University*
- Ali Al-Amine – *Journalist, Al-Balad*

Moderator: Gisèle Khoury – *President, Samir Kassir Foundation*

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:00 Communication strategy of secular initiatives

- Ahmed Benchemsi – *Founder and Editor in chief, Free Arabs*
- Issam Kayssi – *American University of Beirut's Secular Club*
- Shehab Wagih – *Free Egyptian Party*

Moderator: Diana Moukalled – *Web editor in chief, Future TV*

16:00 – 16:15 Coffee break

16:15 – 17:15 Humor and religion

- Screening of selected segments of “Al-Bernameg” followed by an open debate

Moderator: Michel Maaiki – *Journalist and lecturer, Université St-Joseph, Beirut*



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Day 2 – Saturday, July 6, 2013 – REGISTERED JOURNALISTS ONLY

10:00 – 12:00 Religion and freedom of expression in the press

Reading and critiquing a series of articles about religion and freedom of speech: how to give a more accurate perspective on the topic?

- Trainers:
- John Berwick – *Religious affairs correspondent, Deutsche Welle*
 - Jean Karam – *Jordan Media Institute*

12:00 – 12:30 Coffee break

12:30 – 13:00 Making sense of religious news – Part 1

Lebanon-based journalists' session: Civil marriage in Lebanon

- Presenter:
- Talal Husseini – *Lebanese Lawyer*

MENA-based journalists' session: The Vatican Bank and Electing the Pope

- Presenters:
- Isabelle de Gaulmyn – *Head of the religious news service, La Croix*
 - Eric Valmir – *Former Rome correspondent, Radio France*

13:00 – 14:30 Lunch

14:30 – 16:00 Making sense of religious news – Part 2

Writing exercise based on Part 1 presentations

- Trainers:
- Diana Moukalled – *Journalist and producer, Future TV, Al-Sharq Al-Awsat*
 - Nora Boustany – *Journalist and lecturer, American University of Beirut*
 - Mohammed Abu Rumman – *Religious affairs specialist, Al-Ghad*
 - John Berwick – *Deutsche Welle*

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 – 18:00 What happens inside religious institutions – Part 1

Reading reports and stories about controversies taking place inside religious institutions

- Presenters:
- Chloé Andries – *Religious affairs expert, Rue 89*
 - Malek Khadraoui – *Editor in chief, Nawaat*

Day 3 – Sunday, July 7, 2013 – REGISTERED JOURNALISTS ONLY

10:00 – 11:00 What happens inside religious institutions – Part 2

Planning an investigative story on controversies taking place inside religious institutions

Trainers:

- John Berwick – *Religious affairs correspondent, Deutsche Welle*
- Chloé Andries – *Religious affairs expert, Rue 89*
- Malek Khadraoui – *Editor in chief, Nawaat*
- Isabelle de Gaulmyn – *Head of the religious news service, La Croix*
- Eric Valmir – *Former Rome correspondent, Radio France*
- Jean Karam – *Jordan Media Institute*

11:00 – 11:15 Coffee break

11:15 – 13:00 Religion, journalism and creativity

Imagining eye-catching titles, visuals and social media posts around religious terms and issues

Trainers:

- Karl Sharro – *Architect and blogger*
- Ahmed Benchemsi – *Founder and Editor in chief, Free Arabs*

13:00 – 14:30 Closing lunch

Twitter Hashtag: #SKreligion



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