

RIGHTS MANAGEMENT PILOT IMMINENT TO AVOID LEGAL CLASH WITH SEARCH ENGINES

Industry bodies are preparing to launch a global project that aims to avoid any future conflict between search engines and print media.

The new project, Automated Content Access Protocol (ACAP) is an automated enabling system by which publishers of content appearing on the web can grant permissions information in a form easily recognized by search engine 'crawlers'.

ACAP will allow publishers worldwide to express use and license policies in a way search engines can be taught to understand – potentially increasing print's visibility without compromising publisher's rights.

The project is lead by the World Association of Newspapers (WAN), European Publisher's Council (EPC), International Publisher's Association (IPA) and European Newspaper's Association (ENPA), and supported by FIPP. It is the first time newspaper, book and magazine publishing industries have worked together on a joint electronic standard.

Francisco Pinto Balsemano, chairman of EPC said that ACAP would "unambiguously" express publisher's preferred rights, terms and conditions.

He added: "It will facilitate greater access to our published content making it available to anyone who wishes to use it, while avoiding copyright infringement and protecting search engines from future litigations"

Search giant Google was almost fined €1 million a day last month, after a Belgian Court found it guilty of illegally publishing content from newspapers Le Soir and Le Libre Belgique on its news service without consent. Google is lodging an appeal against the judgement.

Source: FIPP

RECORD NUMBER OF JOURNALISTS KILLED IN 2006

Seventy-five journalists have been killed so far this year, making 2006 the deadliest year for journalists on record, the World Association of Newspapers said Thursday.

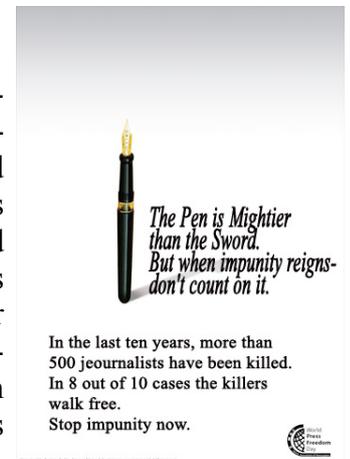
Twenty-six of the deaths occurred in Iraq, where journalists continue to be targeted and murdered. The 75 journalists and other media workers killed through September makes 2006 the most deadly year since WAN began keeping records of journalist murders in 1997. Seventy-two journalists were killed in 2004.

"Journalists in Iraq are not only facing the danger that comes with working in a war zone, they are being hunted down and assassinated simply because they are suspected of cooperating with western news agencies, because of their religious or political affiliation, or because their murderers believe that killing journalists will advance their aims," said Timothy Balding, CEO of the Paris-based WAN.

"Journalism today is more dangerous than ever," he said. "More than 500 journalists have been killed in the past decade, often for simply doing their jobs. These murders are a direct attack not only on individuals, but also on society as a whole. Yet few of the killers are ever brought to justice."

The Philippines, where criminal gangs and corrupt politicians have long been targeting investigative journalists without fear of prosecution, has seen eight journalists murdered so far in 2006.

Journalists have been killed in 19 other countries this year: Afghanistan (1), Angola (2), Bangladesh (1), Brazil (1), China (2), Colombia (4), Democratic Republic



of Congo (1), Ecuador (2), Guatemala (1), Guyana (6), India (2), Indonesia (1), Lebanon (2), Mexico (1), Pakistan (3), Russia (1), Somalia (1), Sri Lanka (5), Sudan (1), Turkmenistan (1) and Venezuela (2).

The death toll compares with 58 killed in 2005, 72 killed in 2004, 53 killed in 2003, 46 killed in 2002, 60 killed in 2001, 53 killed in 2000, 70 killed in 1999, 28 in 1998, and 26 in 1997.

Several press freedom organisations track the number of journalists killed each year. The numbers vary based on the criteria used by different associations. WAN's figures include all media workers killed in the line of duty or targeted because of their work. It also includes cases where the motive for the killings is unsure or where investigations have not been completed.

The Paris-based WAN, the global organisation for the newspaper industry, defends and promotes press freedom world-wide. It represents 18,000 newspapers; its membership includes 73 national newspaper associations, newspapers and newspaper executives in 102 countries, 11 news agencies and nine regional and world-wide press groups.

Source: WAN



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