

Webs Review

Codes of ethics

Journalistic Principles of Professional Ethics (UNESCO)

http://www.ijnet.org/FE_Article/codeethics.asp?UILang=3&CId=8320&CIdLang=3

On 20 November 1983, the Fourth Consultative Meeting of International and Regional Journalists took place in Paris, bringing together the main international sector associations under the auspices of UNESCO. The result of the conversations was a declaration of ten ethical principles and the commitment by the participants to promote the principles in their areas of action in the most suitable manner.

European Code of Journalistic Ethics (Council of Europe)

<http://assembly.coe.int/documents/adoptedtext/ta93/eres1003.htm>

Adopted by the Council of Europe, 1 July 1993 in Strasbourg (France). The code established that media outlets had an ethical responsibility in relation to society. It also said that all ethical consideration is based on a clear differentiation between news and opinion pieces. The text was presented in English and French, but the Spanish translation is available at different websites

<http://www.ceiccos.com.ar/pfc/eticaeneuropa.htm>

International Federation of Journalists (IFJ)

<http://www.ifj.org/default.asp?Language=ES>

The International Federation of Journalists, with more than 500,000 members around the world, prepared a statement in February 2003 on the occasion of the World Summit of the United Nations on the Information Society that began in Geneva in December 2003 and which established a number of recommendations and criteria to achieve quality journalism in the information age.

<http://www.ifj.org/pdfs/WSIS2003ES.pdf>

The PressWise Trust

<http://www.presswise.org.uk/>

The PressWise Trust is an organisation founded in the United Kingdom in 1993, supported by journalists, media lawyers and British politicians. The directory of the codes of conduct included on the organisation's website is available for consultation by country or zone or by keywords, although the latter option is not yet working. The documents are presented in English, with the date of their last update and a link to the text in a format for easy printing.

Xarxa de Periodistes Internacionals (IJNET)

http://www.ijnet.org/FE_Article/CodeEthicsList.asp?UILang=3

The International Journalists Network publishes its website in Spanish, English and Portuguese and contains a broad directory of professional codes, classified by country and in alphabetic order. Examples of documents that can be consulted include the charter of Islamic Media from the Poynter Institute, the website of which contains a great deal of information on journalistic ethics.

<http://www.poynter.org>

Journalists College of Catalonia (CPC) and Council of Information of Catalonia (CIC)

<http://www.periodistes.org/cat/CpcDocuments/CoDiDeontologic.htm?elmenu=1>

The Journalists College of Catalonia and the Council of Information of Catalonia share a professional code. The code, which was drawn up in November 1992, is structured around twelve basic points of ethical conduct. Later, to celebrate the 4th Journalists Congress of Catalonia, which took place in November 2000, the code was expanded in four annexes, to adapt to the new challenges facing the profession.

Federation of Spanish Press Associations (FAPE)
http://www.aprensa-cantabria.org/apc_1_41.htm

Although the FAPE does not have its own website, the Press Association of Cantabria includes the FAPE professional code, which was signed in Seville in 1993 and which defines the first ethical commitment of a journalist as respect for the truth. The code is divided into 20 main criteria.

Press Council of Quebec /Conseil de Presse du Québec

<http://conseildepresse.qc.ca/>

The Press Council of Quebec establishes its main goal as defending and promoting freedom of the press and the public's right to a quality press. Its statement of principles and code of conduct is structured around two concepts: freedom and the responsibility to report information. In French.

El País Newspaper

<http://www.fct.ccoo.es/periodistas/LaProfesion/ESPaís.doc>

The general daily *El País*, together with preparing a stylebook, has established the figure of the Ombudsman and the Statute of News Reporting. The latter is included in the printed version of the newspaper's style guide and contains the operational guidelines and professional conduct codes for its staff.

Catalan Radio and Television Corporation (CCRTV)

<http://www.ccrtv.com/pdf/EstatutProfessional.pdf>

The main code of ethics, principles, rights and obligations of the people who work at the Corporation are included in the CCRTV's Professional Statute for Media Outlets. This document was modified and updated in July 2002.

Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ)

http://spj.org/ethics_code.asp

The American association SPJ adopted a code of ethics in 1996, following months of research and discussion among members. The code has been regularly reviewed ever since. The association's journal, *Quill*, raises the need to modify the code in a number of articles. In English.

American Society of Newspaper Editors (ASNE)
<http://www.asne.org/ideas/codes/codes.htm>

The ASNE webpage gathers together the ethical codes of the main professional associations of American media groups, as well as national news agencies and a number of titles including the *Los Angeles Post*, *Chicago Tribune* and *Washington Post*.

MediaEthics

<http://www.mediaethics.ca/>

This Canadian website provides a number of resources on ethics in Canada and the rest of the world (particularly the English-speaking world). It includes links to media organisations, journalists associations, articles and forums that cover codes of journalistic codes of conduct and ethics. In English.

Radio-Television News Directors Association (RTNDA)

<http://www.rtnf.org/enesp/coe.shtml>

Truth, justice, integrity, independence and responsibility are the elements that make up the RTNDA code of conduct. This organisation is composed of more than 2,000 broadcast journalists from around the world.

The National Society of Newspaper Columnists (NSNC)

<http://columnists.com/>

In June 2003, this association of American and Canadian newspaper columnists adopted a code of conduct specifically for their work, mainly related to opinion pieces.