Invitation:
"Interpreting Crisis. Reporting on Migration, Asylum Seekers and Syrian Conflict"

Date: October 24 2016, 11 am – 2 pm
Venue: European Federation of Journalists, Rue de la Loi, 1040 Brussels
Language of event: English

Registration by October 17 at info@finncult.be
See full programme on the following page

In partnership with the Media Diversity Institute MDI

Dear Sir/Madam,

We cordially invite you to take part in a workshop for journalists, organised by The Finnish Institute in London, The Finnish Cultural Institute for the Benelux and Felm. The reflective workshop is realised in collaboration with The European Federation of Journalists in Brussels, on October 24.

The workshop "Interpreting Crisis. Reporting on Migration, Asylum Seekers and Syrian Conflict" discusses the challenges journalists face when reporting on migration, asylum seekers and conflict. The workshop aims to raise a dialogue on the preconditions and effects of journalism and on the challenges of reporting migration and the so called “refugee crisis” in the press. What are the ways to represent refugees and asylum seekers, and how is it possible to do versatile, ethical journalism on Syria? The workshop is based on the outcomes of press reports and studies, individually published by the institutes and Felm in 2015-2016.

The workshop will be moderated by Milica Pesic, Executive Director of the Media Diversity Institute. Pesic has designed and supervised multi-national diversity media development programmes in Europe, NIS, MENA, SEA, Sub-Sahara, West Africa and the Caribbean. Journalist by profession, she has reported for the BBC, Radio Free Europe, The Times Higher Education and TV Serbia. The Media Diversity Institute is a London-based international organisation specialised in inclusion of diversity through media.

The event is free of charge. See the full programme of the event on the following page. The workshop requires registration by October 17 at info@finncult.be.

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PROGRAMME

October 24 2016, 11 am – 2 pm
European Federation of Journalists, Rue de la Loi, 1040 Brussels
Registration by 16 October at info@finncult.be

11.00 Opening words
Ricardo Gutierrez, General Secretary of the European Federation of Journalists

11.15 Presenting the report: Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Press Coverage
Johanna Sumuvuori, Head of Society Programme at the Finnish Institute in London
Annukka Vähäsöyrinki, Head of Projects at the Finnish Cultural Institute for the Benelux

11.45 Presenting the study: Syria in Global media
Lea Pakkanen, Advisor at Felm
Aziz Hallaj, Coordinator of the Syria Initiative at Felm

11.15 Questions and comments on the reports

11.30 Coffee break

12.00 Workshop discussion
Milica Pesic, Executive Director at Media Diversity Institute

1.00 Closing the workshop

REPORTS AND STUDIES

The Finnish Institute in London and The Finnish Cultural Institute for the Benelux have carried out a report, The representation of refugees and asylum seekers in the newspapers (January 2016), which studies how the so called “refugee crisis”, migration and asylum seekers were reported in European quality media. The research material consists of Finnish, Belgian and UK newspapers. The study has been published in Finnish and English with a summary in Dutch and French.

The Finnish Institute in London and The Finnish Cultural Institute for the Benelux, based in Brussels, Belgium, are both part of a network of 17 Finnish Cultural and Academic institutes across the world, funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture as well as various public and private funds.

The Syria in Global Media report, commissioned by FELM, examines how Syria is portrayed in the global English speaking media. During the almost year-long research period, over 30 000 electronic media sources and over 6 million social media hits were studied. The English language report has been conducted as part of Felm’s Syria Initiative project.

Felm is a Christian organization working in global development and peace, one of the largest Finnish civil society organisations and a key partner organisation for Finland’s Ministry for Foreign Affairs.