

SC candidate 2022



Candidate for a position on the Steering Committee

Allan Boye Thulstrup, Vice president, Danish Union of Journalists

Journalism and media in Europe face a wide array of challenges – and I offer my candidacy in order to assist the EFJ in finding possible solutions and answers to them.

Candidate statement, on some of the issues I would like to address in the SC:

Press freedom and media pluralism

The situation in many European countries is dire, but nowhere more than Ukraine and Belarus – and in EFJ we should continue to explore options to help in any way possible.

Press freedom is under attack in many other European countries. No matter if the attacks come from governments, from organized disinformation, harassment of individual journalists or from forces determined to limit free speech, the EFJ has a crucial role as a forum for sharing knowledge and tools, and as a strong voice in defense of the importance of press freedom and media pluralism.

Answers in a digital, freelance world

When journalistic labor is digitalized, much of it can be done from anywhere, as the home offices of covid19 has demonstrated. It is very likely, that this will further increase the number of freelancers and solo selfemployed in journalism and media.

With new EU guidelines on the way, it is very likely that unions and federations in the 27 member countries will have new possibilities for social dialogue and negotiations.

In the coming years the Steering Committee will have a key role in gathering and sharing examples of this, to help the member organizations to find the best practice to utilize the new possibilities.

Organized labor requires capacity building in organizations

Strong unions are unions with active members. Strength in numbers is strength at the negotiation table. The EFJ should continue its work to help inspire and assist member- organizations with capacity building. Each country has its own challenges and history, but for all of us it is crucial, that we understand how to formulate our purpose and show our relevance to our members and potential members, including coming generations.

CV

Born 1979. Graduated from The Danish School of Media and Journalism in 2006, with a semester at University of Tennessee, Knoxville.

I have worked as a political reporter and journalist, and as a communication expert since 2006, also serving as a local representative of the Union.

First elected as a member of the executive board in the Danish Union of Journalists in 2011, and since 2020 elected as vice president of the Union.

Member of the board, the Danish School of Media and Journalism and in the Danish Press' Education Foundation.

Since 2020 member of LAREG, Labor Rights Expert Group, under EFJ.