

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE AT THE INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISM FESTIVAL IN PERUGIA

At the International Journalism Festival in Perugia, Italy, from April 9 to 13, 2025, Agence France-Presse (AFP) will be at the center of key discussions shaping the future of the profession. Five AFP journalists will participate in six high-profile panels addressing some of the most pressing challenges in modern journalism. This festival, one of the most significant annual events in the field, offers an essential platform for global media leaders, reporters, and scholars to engage in critical conversations about journalism's evolving landscape.

AFP's participation highlights its commitment to journalistic excellence, covering issues ranging from climate change reporting and newsroom leadership to misinformation, press freedom, and journalist safety. AFP experts will share their insights and experiences across six panel discussions:

[Leading by example: transforming newsroom leadership for climate crisis reporting](#)

April 10, 09:30 - 10:20

Phil Chetwynd, AFP's Global News Director, will discuss how newsroom leaders can drive impactful climate crisis coverage by securing stakeholder buy-in, crafting compelling narratives, and balancing daily news priorities with long-term climate reporting.

[Rebuilding my life: a conversation with photojournalist Christina Assi](#)

April 10, 12:35 - 13:00

Christina Assi, an AFP photojournalist, was severely wounded while reporting in southern Lebanon in October 2023 by an Israeli tank shell attack, which led to the amputation of her right leg. In conversation with Phil Chetwynd, she will share her journey of survival, rehabilitation, and determination to return to the field. Assi will also discuss her advocacy for journalist safety and the fight for accountability in attacks on the press, highlighting the broader risks faced by reporters in conflict zones.

[How can we make climate training effective and engaging for a sceptical newsroom?](#)

April 10, 16:00 - 16:50

Moderated by Ivan Couronne, AFP's Global Editor for 'Future of the Planet,' this panel will explore effective strategies for training journalists on climate and science topics, especially in newsrooms where there are doubts about the need for specialized training on these issues. Panelists will share best practices and case studies, including AFP's work on educating journalists about greenwashing, offering practical insights on how to engage reporters across various beats in impactful climate coverage.

[Justice for Gazan journalists](#)

April 11, 09:30 - 10:20

Dylan Collins, AFP's Chief Video Journalist in Beirut, will discuss the challenges of achieving justice for journalists killed in conflict zones and the increasing dangers faced by reporters covering war and political unrest worldwide. With over 15 years of experience in the Middle East, Collins has reported on some of the region's most perilous conflicts, including Syria, Iraq, and Gaza. He was also wounded while reporting in Ukraine in July 2023, and, notably, in the same attack as Christina Assi, in southern Lebanon in October 2023.

[Can fact-checkers accurately forecast false claims that may cause harm, and defend wider freedom of speech?](#)

April 12, 09:30 - 10:20

Karl Malakunas, AFP's Head of Philanthropic Projects, will join a discussion on how fact-checkers can anticipate harmful misinformation before it spreads and assess its potential impact. The panel will also explore the ethical dilemmas of combating misinformation while safeguarding freedom of speech, drawing on recent trials of new models designed to measure the real-world consequences of false claims.

[Lessons from writing a book about mental health for journalists](#)

April 12, 09:30 - 10:20

Phil Chetwynd will join Hannah Storm, founder and Co-Director of Headlines Network, to discuss key takeaways from a book on journalist well-being, addressing stress management, exposure to trauma, and fostering a newsroom culture that prioritizes mental health.

About AFP

AFP is a leading global news agency providing fast, comprehensive and verified coverage of the events shaping our world and of the issues affecting our daily lives. Drawing from an unparalleled news gathering network across 150 countries, AFP is also a world leader in digital investigations. With 2,600 staff representing 100 different nationalities, AFP covers the world in six languages, with a unique quality of multimedia storytelling spanning video, text, photos and graphics.

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