

PRESS RELEASE

UNESCO Director-General condemns killing of journalist Khalil Jibran in Pakistan

Paris, 5 July 2024 - **Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of UNESCO, has condemned the killing of journalist Khalil Jibran in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan on 18 June.**

“I condemn the killing of Khalil Jibran and call for a thorough investigation to ensure that the perpetrators are brought to justice. Impunity for such violent crimes against journalists should never be allowed,” said **Audrey Azoulay, UNESCO Director-General.**

Khalil Jibran was a journalist for the TV channel *Khyber News* and former President of the Landi Kotal Press Club. He was reportedly dragged out of his vehicle by unknown assailants, who then fatally shot him. Jibran had previously reported receiving death threats. He is the sixth journalist killed in Pakistan since the beginning of the year.

UNESCO promotes the [safety of journalists](#) through global awareness-raising, capacity building and by coordinating the implementation of the [UN Plan of Action](#) on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity.

Read more: [UNESCO Observatory of Killed Journalists](#)

About UNESCO

With 194 Member States, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization contributes to peace and security by leading multilateral cooperation on education, science, culture, communication and information. Headquartered in Paris, UNESCO has offices in 54 countries and employs over 2300 people. UNESCO oversees more than 2000 World Heritage sites, Biosphere Reserves and Global Geoparks; networks of Creative, Learning, Inclusive and Sustainable Cities; and over 13 000 associated schools, university chairs, training and research institutions. Its Director-General is Audrey Azoulay.

“Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed” – UNESCO Constitution, 1945.

More information: www.unesco.org

MEDIA CONTACT

Clare O'HAGAN
+33 (0) 145 68 17 29
c.o-hagan@unesco.org