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PUBLIC MANIFESTATION IN 31 BIH CITIES HELD

IN OCCASION OF MAY 3rd WORLD MEDIA FREEDOM DAY

Sarajevo, 03.05.2012

The Press Council in BiH, together with the Association BH Journalists, the Youth News Association in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Association of High School Students in Bosnia and Herzegovina, has realized the manifestation in occasion of May 3rd - World Media Freedom Day

. Participants in the realization of this manifestation were associates of the Press Council in BiH and the Association of BH Journalists, as well as volunteers from the Youth News Association in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Association of High School Students in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

On this occasion, a Press Conference was held in Sarajevo, Art-Cinema Kriterion, while a Public Debate took place in Banja Luka, hotel Bosna. The Public campaign was realized in 31 cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Sarajevo, Tuzla, Gradiska, Banja Luka, Foca, Velika Kladusa, Zenica, Istocno Sarajevo, Bihac, Jajce, Bratunac, Capljina, Maglaj, Mostar, Siroki Brijeg, Visegrad, Pale, Brcko, Srebrenik, Gorazde, Trebinje, Visoko, Sanski Most, Kakanj, Bijeljina, Derventa, Lukavac, Posusje, Gracanica and Konjic.

During the Press Conference, the journalists were addressed by Mr. Paul Pasch, director of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation, who emphasized the importance of free media for the development of a democratic pluralistic society and warned about the dangers of hate speech and biased media. Ms. Ljiljana Zurovac, Executive Director of the Press Council in BiH, also

addressed journalists speaking about media freedom and self-regulation, followed by Ms. Borka Rudic, Secretary General of the Association BH Journalists, who presented the study "Journalism, Public Opinion and Media Freedom in BiH". In conclusion of the Press Conference, Mr. Denis Hadzic, President of the Association ONA, and Mr. Peter Josip Bevanda, PR of the Association of High School Students in BiH, presented the campaign, "Conquer Freedom - Be Responsible", which took place in 31 cities in BiH.

The World Media Freedom Day was also marked by the Public Debate which took place in Banja Luka, where the study "Journalism, Public Opinion and Media Freedom in BiH" was presented by Ms. Milkica Milojevic, President of the Association of BH Journalists. Besides her, Mr. Mladen Mirosavljevic from the Independent University of Banja Luka elaborated on the topic "Is the Media in BiH Free?" while Mr. Sinisa Vukelic, President of the Journalists' Club Banja Luka, presented the campaign "Conquer Freedom - Be Responsible".

The Campaign "Conquer Freedom - Be Responsible" took place in Sarajevo, Tuzla, Gradiska, Banja Luka, Foca, Velika Kladusa, Zenica, Istocno Sarajevo, Bihac, Jajce, Bratunac, Capljina, Maglaj, Mostar, Siroki Brijeg, Visegrad, Pale, Brcko, Srebrenik, Gorazde, Trebinje, Visoko, Sanski Most, Kakanj, Bijeljina, Derventa, Lukavac, Posusje, Gracanica and Konjic. As part of this action, local teams from the Youth News Association and the Association of High School Students in BiH organized info-stands in the listed cities, where they gave out materials on freedom of speech and journalistic responsibility. Afterwards, they visited the local media, the municipal administration and Faculties of Journalism. The debate on the topic: "The Position of Young People in Media and their (none) freedom" was organized in Visoko, while the public reading of columns about media freedom took place in Bihac. At least 400 volunteers - high school students took part in the campaign.

[Program of the May 3rd - World Media Freedom Day Commemoration](#)