



Luxembourg's Foreign Minister receives recommendations from Asian and European crisis reporters

Conclusions from the 10th ASEF Journalists' Colloquium on "Crisis Reporting: The Role of Asian and European Media" were presented to Mr Jean ASSELBORN, Foreign Minister of Luxembourg after the 12th ASEM¹ Foreign Ministers' Meeting (ASEM FMM12) on 6 November 2015 in Luxembourg.

Press Release

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More Information

bit.ly/ASEFJC10



During crisis reporting, whether in Asia or in Europe, the role of any state and its foreign policies play important roles. The government is one of the first information sources for the media and this information has both national and international impact. This point was closely examined during the 10th ASEF Journalists' Colloquium on Crisis Reporting, which gathered about 38 practicing journalists and media experts from 33 countries from 4-6 November in Luxembourg.

"Communication is an important pillar of Luxembourg's humanitarian strategy. As a reaction to the communication gaps experienced in the Haiti response in 2010, Luxembourg decided to develop a communication module called emergency.lu. This project is addressing the challenge of worldwide rapid response capacity and preparedness for humanitarian emergencies by providing a solution to speedily fill the communication gap after a disaster", said Mr Romain SCHNEIDER, the Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Action in Luxembourg, who was the keynote speaker at the Colloquium.

"This Colloquium provided an opportunity to deliberate and analyse different approaches, skills and tools used in crisis reporting from Asian and European perspectives", noted Ambassador ZHANG Yan, Executive Director, ASEF.

Some of the discussion highlights of the event were based on journalists' experiences from the field during disasters such as the Himalayan Quake in Nepal, the Fukushima nuclear disaster in Japan or the refugee crisis in Europe. Other sessions of the Colloquium focussed on important aspects that create huge impact in reporting a crisis. These include: role of social media, reporting for people directly affected by disasters, and long-term reporting of events.

Based on the discussions and conclusions at the Colloquium, ASEF will be publishing the **ASEF Media Handbook on Crisis Reporting**. This handbook will have practical suggestions for journalists covering catastrophes. The publication is being designed to improve understanding of crisis assessment and response and convey best practices in reporting on different types of crises. It will provide information about resources and networks that can help improve their understanding of crises and thus strengthen their reporting. The handbook will be available for free download on ASEF website in early 2016.

For more information on this event please visit: bit.ly/ASEFJC10

The 10th ASEF Journalists' Colloquium on Crisis Reporting is organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) in partnership with the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg and Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) Asia Media Programme.

¹ The Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) is an intergovernmental forum for dialogue and cooperation established in 1996 to deepen relations between Asia and Europe, which addresses political, economic and socio-cultural issues of common concern. ASEM brings together 53 members (21 Asian and 30 European countries, the ASEAN Secretariat, and the European Union).

About the Organisers



The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, economy, education, governance, public health and sustainable development. ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

Together with about 750 partner organisations ASEF has run over 700 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. More than 20,000 Asians and Europeans have actively participated in its activities and it has reached much wider audiences through its networks, web-portals, publications, exhibitions and lectures.

For more information, please visit www.asef.org



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Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs

The **Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg** promotes the country's role throughout the world via political, diplomatic, economic, cultural and consular cooperation with other States as well as international and intergovernmental organisations. Jean Asselborn has been Luxembourg's Minister of Foreign Affairs since 2004. The Ministry ensures Luxembourg's worldwide representation through 28 bilateral Embassies as well as a number of General Consulates, Permanent Representations to international and intergovernmental organisations as well as Offices for Luxembourg's development cooperation. Besides managing diplomatic relations, the Ministry is also in charge of immigration and asylum policy, development cooperation and defence matters, each of which are headed by their own Minister.

For more information, please visit www.mae.lu



The **Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)** is a political foundation named after the first Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, Konrad Adenauer. His name is synonymous with the democratic reconstruction of Germany, the firm alignment of foreign policy with the trans-Atlantic community of values, and the vision of a unified Europe. His intellectual heritage continues to serve both as our aim as well as our obligation today. We cooperate with governmental institutions, political parties, civil society organizations and handpicked elites, building strong partnerships along the way.

For more information, please visit www.kas.de/medien-asien/en/

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