

Session 1: Overview of the geopolitical situation in Asia and Europe and their impact on reporting

Trainer Mr. Panu Wongcha-Um, President of FCCT and Indochina senior correspondent, Reuters

Notes

1. The session examined the challenges journalists face amid growing geopolitical tensions and the spread of mis-/disinformation. The discussion focused on four key issues: maintaining impartiality when reporting clear acts of aggression or abuse; the risks of “both sides” reporting in an environment of organized disinformation; reporting from places where access is controlled by one side; and the declining presence of foreign correspondents despite the growing need for international context.
2. The discussion highlighted the importance of maintaining journalistic standards in a challenging information environment, including impartiality, balanced and contextual reporting, transparency and careful verification of information.
3. Participants gained a deeper understanding of how geopolitical developments shape international reporting and influence the media landscape. The session also reinforced the importance of verifying information from multiple sources, identifying potential manipulation and disinformation, and providing sufficient historical and geopolitical context to help audiences understand complex international events. Participants further reflected on journalistic impartiality and the challenges of reporting from restricted-access areas, as well as the implications of the declining presence of foreign correspondents for the quality and depth of international news coverage.

European Union Division,
Department of European Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand