

OPEN LETTER TO YEMENI JOURNALISTS

We, the undersigned journalists, writers, broadcasters, media analysts, reporters, editors, photographers, bloggers, media workers, and online journalists, wish to commend the vitally important and courageous work of Yemeni journalists reporting on the war-crimes of the military coalition led by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirate over these last five years. Without your reporting on this conflict the world would not be aware of the scale of the humanitarian crisis which has been imposed upon Yemen.

In 2018 Secretary General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, described Yemen as the world's worst humanitarian crisis. Two years on the situation has not improved and after the devastation wrought by cholera outbreaks the Covid-19 pandemic threatens to place additional strain on Yemen's health systems which have been decimated by five years of Saudi-Emirati airstrikes.

According to a recent report from the Yemen Data Project nearly a third of the airstrikes conducted by the military coalition led by Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirate have deliberately targeted hospitals, clinics, vaccination centers, rural and field medical points through aerial attacks. Such violations of international law have been condemned by the international community yet were it not for the reporting on the ground from Yemen the world not be aware of these war-crimes.

By continuing to shine a light on the situation of Yemen after five years of military bombardment and blockade we call on the brave Yemeni journalists to continue this work which is not going unnoticed. In service of the truth you are the key to alleviating the suffering of Yemen, by spreading awareness you are forcing the international community to place pressure on Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to stop this war. Yemeni journalists have played a key role in keeping the public informed when faced with cholera and diphtheria outbreaks in these last five years. We urge you to continue to educate and inform the public about the risks of the Covid-19 pandemic based on the guidelines of the World Health Organisation.

FULL LIST OF SIGNATORIES TO THE OPEN LETTER

Nina Cross, Independent Writer, UK

Vanessa Beeley, Investigative Journalist, UK

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**To add your name to the letter, please contact Journalist Support Committee (JSC),
Campaign Officer at jscpress@yahoo.com**

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