

Major Cities Witness a Decline in Press Freedom International Conventions Struck by Authorities

A monitoring report on the violations against
the Iraqi Journalists in Iraq for the period

1.1.2022 – 31.12.2022
Press Freedom Advocacy Association

Prepared by: Israa Tariq
Translated by: Amal Ibrahim
Monitored by: Provinces Team
Supervised by: The Administrative Board

Structure

Summary in Figures	3
Introduction	6-4
The nature of violations against journalists	7
Violations Timeline	8
Violations mapping	9
Narrative	32 -10
Conclusion	33
Recommendations	35-34

Summary in Figures

Type of violation	Total
Arrests and detentions	62
Killing threats	2
Raids and armed attacks	12
Injuries	9
Beatings, Banning and coverage obstruction	260
Lawsuits, warrants and issued sentences	9
Closures and lay-offs	1
Official limitations	28
Others	5
Total	388

Introduction:

The Iraqi authorities, influential political sides and armed parties continue their series of flagrant violations that are directed to the Media and Journalists family in the country; where 388 cases of violation have been observed that breach the stipulations of article 38 of the Iraqi constitution.

The current and previous governments did not confront the attacking, detaining, preventing or obstructing coverage, and confiscating or sabotaging equipment by the security forces or the armed and political parties in power, that Iraqi journalists are subjected to on regular basis, nor did we notice any reaction by the current and former presidents of the republic towards a legal move to protect the constitution from repeated violations of freedom of journalistic work.

This government, as well, has led to the increase of cases of abuse compared to last year.

Since the current Prime Minister Mohammed Shiyaa al-Sudani took office, he pledged to give priority to freedom of expression when presenting his program. Political parties have also been filing lawsuits against journalists, in accordance with the articles of publishing crimes within the Iraqi Penal Code No. 111 of 1969; a law inherited from the former dictatorial era, with the aim of narrowing the spaces of journalistic work in various regions of Iraq.

The Kurdistan Region also continues to record the most serious violations in Iraq this year, and journalists continue to be imprisoned on charges of "espionage and destabilization of the system" or "conspiring against the regional government".

During the period covered by this monitoring report, the Press Freedom Advocacy Association in Iraq (PFAA) classified (388) cases of violations against journalists, as follows: (Raiding and armed attacks against media institutions and journalists' homes, death threats, injuries during coverage, filing lawsuits, judgments issued and arrest warrants on malicious charges, arrest and detention, assault by beating, preventing and obstructing

coverage, closing channels and laying off workers, issuing government orders to restrict freedom of journalistic work).

The most common types of violations this year were beatings, preventing and obstructing coverage by official security forces, as PFAA recorded (260) cases during this year, followed by (62) cases of arrest and detention without arrest warrants, (12) cases of raids and armed attacks on media institutions and journalists' homes, as well as (9) lawsuits filed against journalists and media institutions, despite the fact that the Supreme Judicial Authority decided to reactivate the publishing court to consider journalists' cases, (9) cases of injuries during coverage, and two cases of Death threats and (28) cases of restriction that came in the form of official letters issued by governmental institutions.

Statistics according to the governorates, show that no governorate is spared from recording violations against journalists, and the country's federal capital (Baghdad) ranked first with (80) cases of violation, the capital of the Kurdistan region (Erbil) ranked second with (75) cases of violation, Basra third with (41) cases, Kirkuk (33), Mosul (30) cases of violation, Sulaymaniyah and Karbala with (27) cases each, then Najaf (17) cases of violation, while Dohuk recorded (16) cases, Babylon (15) cases, Dhi Qar (9) cases, and Maysan (5) Cases and Diwaniyah (4) cases, Diyala and Muthanna witnessed two cases of violation, and one case was recorded in each of Anbar, Salah al-Din, and Wasit. violations that affected Iraqi journalists outside the country, were also monitored as two cases of violation against the crew of Al-Iraqiya channel in Beirut took place by an Iraqi government official.

The steady increase in the number of violations, especially in Baghdad and the Kurdistan Region, despite the fact that the latter is protected by laws that serve the freedom of journalistic work, such as the law on the right to access information, indicates a systematic political consensus to limit the freedom of journalistic work .

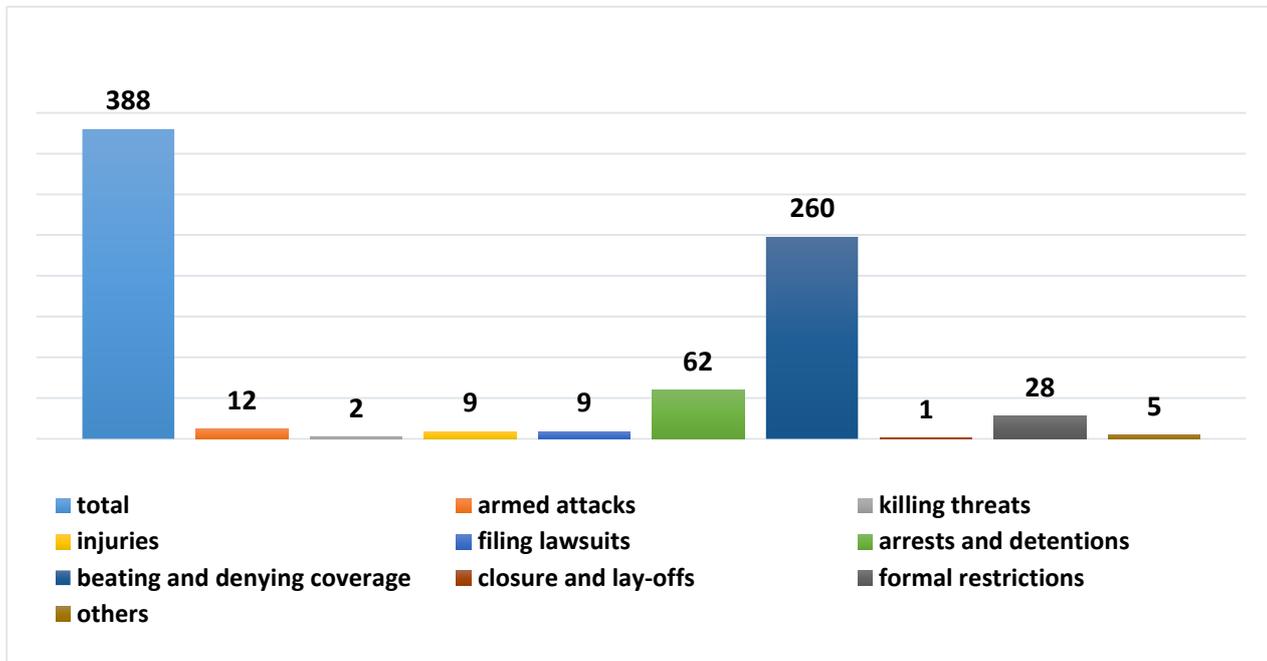
It is also noted that the governorates that have almost been evacuated of journalists as Maysan, witnessed (5) cases of

violations this year, and this supports the continued fear of journalists to return to their governorate after a series of assassinations that victimised many opinion makers in 2019.

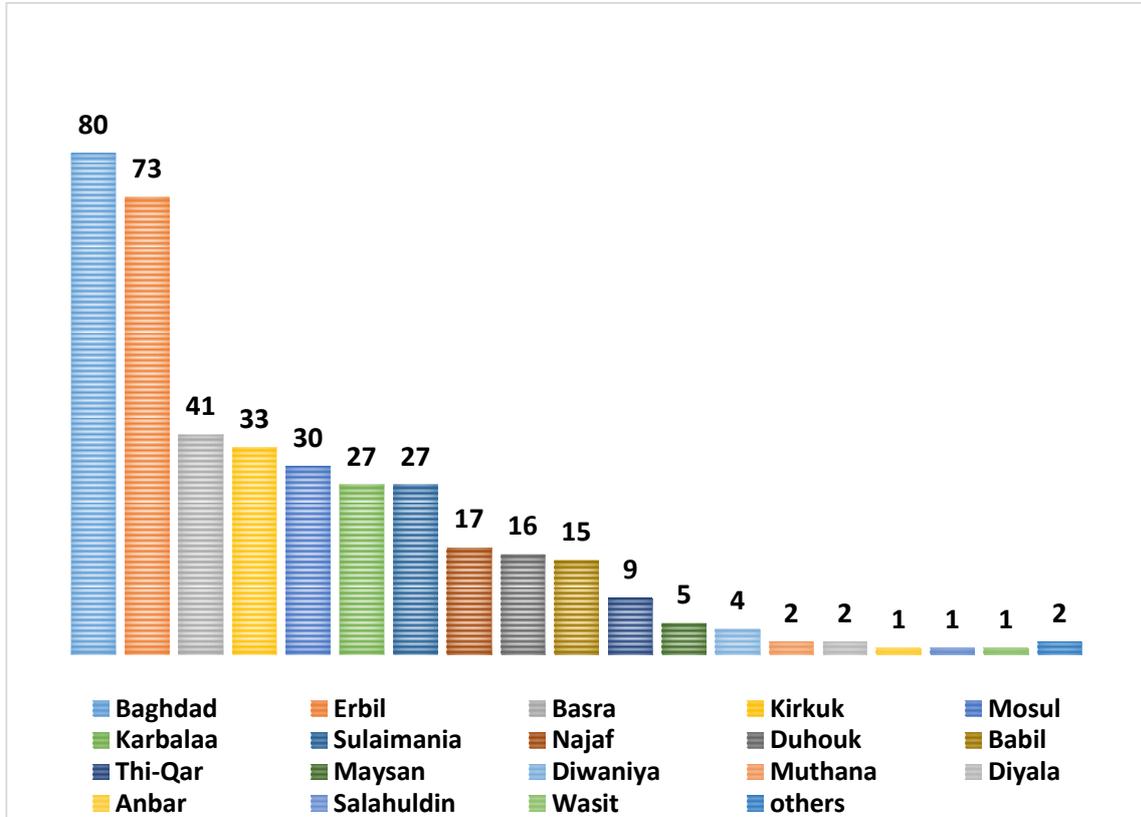


جمعية الدفاع عن حرية الصحافة
Press Freedom Advocacy Association

Types of violations against journalists



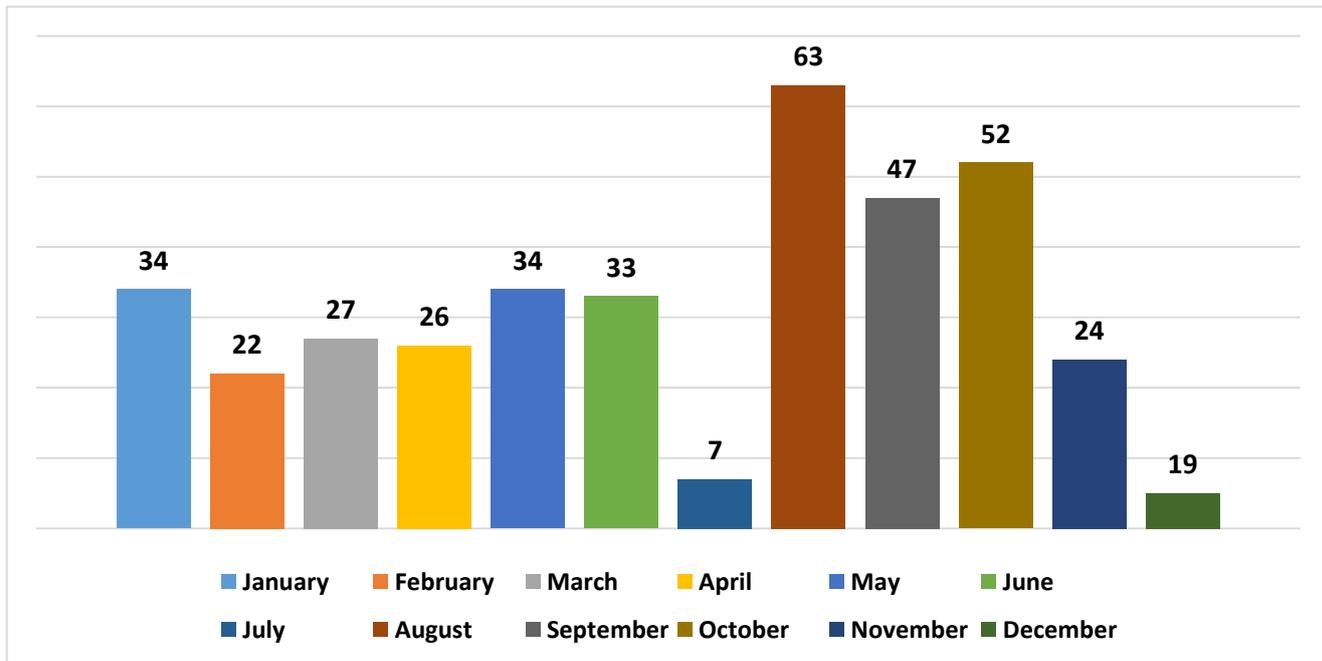
Mapping of violations



جمعية الدفاع عن حرية الصحافة
Press Freedom Advocacy Association



Timeline of violations



Violations Narrative

Arrests and Detentions

- On 23/1/2022, riot police in Dhi Qar arrested the cameraman of the Al-Janubiya Channel (Abbas Razzaq) and confiscated his press equipment while he was covering a homage protest stand for the martyrs of the Al-Naqa Center in the governorate .
- On 27/1/2022, a security officer in civilian clothes detained the Al-Mirbad Radio staff in Basra. The crew (woman reporter Nour Al-Tamimi and cameramen Ali Tabina and Ezhar Al-Eidani) was detained for more than an hour, the woman reporter was beaten and verbally abused, the equipment was confiscated, and returned after erasing the filmed material under the pretext that the officer appeared in the video recordings. The incident took place while they were covering the former Prime Minister's visit to the "Warriors There" Association.
- On 5/2/2022, an Asayish force in Zakho detained the staff of Speda TV, consisting of (reporter Barzan Hassan and cameraman Mushir Ahmed) after they covered a religious center that was opened for teaching the Qur'an in Nowruz area.
- On 27/2/2022, the Karbala Emergency Police detained (Jassim Al-Hamim) inside Al-Hindiya Hospital for more than half an hour and seized his equipment. The incident took place while they were filming the fire that broke out in the Tuwairej District Hospital.
- On 15/3/2022, Asayish forces in Dohuk detained the NRT channel staff (Taif Gorran and Ahmed Zakri) for more than two hours. The incident took place while they were covering a fire that erupted in a tourist hotel near the markets area of (Kli).
- On 24/5/2022, a security force in Baghdad arrested Al-Baghdadia channel program presenter, (Ali Al-Dhubhawi) to be kept inside the intelligence headquarters after veiling him. The detention lasted for 4 hours.

- On 25/5/2022, a security force in Kirkuk arrested the correspondent of Kurdistan TV (Hello Jbari), and took him to Daquq district police station for interrogation. Jbari was arrested while he was covering the incident of burning the crops of the district.
- On 9/6/2022, members of the Asayish in Erbil detained the correspondent of the "Westke" news channel, (Nabz Rashad), for more than two hours, while he was covering an explosion that occurred between the city of Erbil and Salah al-Din resort; the incident resulted in human injuries and material damage to shops and civilian vehicles, and the reporter was released after a written pledge not to return to the area for coverage.
- On 5/7/2022, members of the law enforcement forces in Basra detained the cameraman of Watan TV (Karrar Al-Muhammadawi) for more than half an hour, and seized his press equipment to prevent him from covering a demonstration that erupted in front of the governorate building. The protest was organized by a number of lecturers, to demand permanent employment. The cameraman was forced to sign a written pledge not to return for coverage.
- On 18/7/2022, security personnel in Erbil arrested (Ayoub Ali) of KNN channel based on an arrest warrant that was issued from the police station on the background of a lawsuit being filed against him. the reporter immediately went to the station to inquire about the reason behind filing the lawsuit, and the involved party; he was imprisoned at once.
- On 1/8/2022, an Asayish force in Sulaymaniyah arrested the reporter of NRT channel (Karzan Tariq) and cameraman (Jeans Ahmed) while they were collecting the opinions of citizens in the large market in the center of the city, in response to the calls of some politicians for the residents of the region to demonstrate against the ruling class in Kurdistan.
- On 6/8/2022, an Asayish force arrested (Ayoub Warti) from his home in Erbil, to an unknown destination. This is his second arrest this year, after being arrested at the Erbil police station, for exposing corruption cases to public opinion, and he was released on bail at the time.

- On 5/8/2022, the security forces in Dohuk arrested the director of the NRT channel's office, (Taif Goran), and the reporter (Briar Neroy) in front of the channel's office.
- On 6/8/2022, security forces arrested an NRT correspondent in Dohuk (Sabah Sufi) while he was heading towards Sheikhan district of Dohuk governorate, after he escaped from his house in fear of being arrested.
- On 6/8/2022, security forces arrested NRT correspondents (Diyar Mohammed and Soran Mohamed) while they were covering the demonstrations in Chamchamal in Erbil .
- On 6/8/2022, the Asayish arrested four journalists from the "Westka News" Foundation, namely (Sirwan Gharib, Arkan Jabbar, Zaniar Marwan, and Hifar Hiwa) while they were covering the protests in Sulaymaniyah, and arrested the director of Kurd News Foundation, colleague (Abdullah Ahmed), who was only released three days later.
- On 6/8/2022, a force of Asayish arrested photojournalist (Muhammad Idris), in front of his house in Erbil, and released him after three days of detention, despite the announcement of the authorities in the region to release all journalists on the eve of the protests that swept the region.
- On 6/8/2022, an Asayish force arrested the director of the NRT office in Dohuk, colleague (Taif Goran) and his fellow correspondent (Briar Niroi), while they were on their way to the channel's headquarters to perform their duties. The staff was driven away forcefully in Asayish cars and all press equipment was confiscated.
- On 8/8/2022, members of Saraya al-Salam in the Najaf office detained the cameraman of the Change Channel colleague (Mustafa Walaa), confiscated his camera, and erased the video materials saved in it before returning them to him and releasing him, while he was covering a fire that broke out in one of its headquarters.
- On 14/8/2022, the Sadrist movement demonstrators in Babylon detained the staff of AlTaghyir Channel, reporter Zaid Shehayeb and cameraman Ahmed Al-Ajili, for more than half an hour and confiscated their equipment while they were covering the demonstrations under the pretext that the channel conveys a negative image of the protests .

- On 29/8/2022, security personnel arrested the staff of Al-Jazeera channels, reporter Samer Youssef and cameraman Muhammad Mulla along with Al-Rasheed TV staff , reporter Ammar Ghassan and cameraman Muhammad Al-Shammari from inside the government palace in the Green Zone in Baghdad, to prevent them from coverage. The press team was released after an hour of beating and insults. their press equipment was also confiscated.
- On 29/8/2022, security forces in the Green Zone detained a Zoom News correspondent (Rukan Al-Jaf) for half an hour, and confiscated all his press equipment while he was covering the protests that erupted in Baghdad.
- On 5/9/2022, security personnel from the Asayish in Erbil arrested NRT correspondent (Karim Kifi) while he was covering a drone bombing incident, in Khalifan district of Erbil, without knowing the reason for the arrest.
- On 7/9/2022, the administrative assistant at the Turkish Hospital in Dhi Qar detained four media persons; Zagros TV correspondent Ali Saleh, Dijlah TV correspondent Rasem Karim, Al-Masara TV correspondent Nour Al-Saidi, and Afaq Azhar Al-Azrafi TV correspondent, inside one of the hospital rooms, to prevent them from covering the cases of a number of citizens who were injured as a result of a wolf herd attack on a village in the governorate. They were only released after erasing all the filmed material.
- On 11/9/2022, security personnel affiliated with the SWAT Najaf forces detained the correspondent of Al-Mustaqil newspaper (Ali Al-Sharifi), while he was reporting the traffic jams, and the suffering facing visitors to reach Najaf Governorate. The detention lasted for about two hours, he was insulted and verbally abused and his phone was taken away.
- on 17/9/2022, Ruz News correspondents, Botan Krimyani and Beirwa Asaad were arrested by Sulaimaniya police forces. The arrest also included Cameraman Mohammed Aziz from Jetter Media after their coverage of the commemorative event that paid a years homage to the late Shukri Serhat, the assassinated member of PKK. The staff was led to an unknown destination and their equipment was sophisticated.

- on 24/9/2022 The security forces in Erbil detained the correspondent, (Nabz Rashad) of the Westke Foundation and the staff of the Makzin Diplomatic website, Rebin Sardar Abdul Qadir and Sabre Abdullah Ahmed, inside one of the police vehicles for more than forty minutes, denying them coverage of the demonstration near the Iranian consulate in Erbil that was organized by a number of activists against the killing of the young Iranian lady (Mahsa Amini). The staff was released only after a written pledge of no future coverage in the area.

- On 3/10/2022, members of the army forces in Sinjar arrested the Chira tv channel cadre, reporter Jajar Shalqi and cameraman Jilan Hababi, while they were crossing one of the checkpoints in the district, for unclear reasons. the cadre was released, after a two- hour detention.

- On 9/10/2022, the Counter-Terrorism Service in Sulaymaniyah arrested the editor-in-chief (Weissi Qashqai) and news director (Ibrahim Ali) of "Bouar Media" while they were returning from Sulaymaniyah to their place of residence in Erbil. The arrest was based on the publication of colleague (Ibrahim Ali) a newspaper article, coinciding with the anniversary of the death of the leader of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan Jalal Talabani, in which he talked about corruption and assassinations in Sulaymaniyah.

- On 10/10/2022, members of the National Security Agency in Mosul arrested the director of "Hala FM" radio , Sattar Al-Mahal, in front of the radio building, upon his arrival for work. Al Mahal was led to the directorate building and released on bail after a two -day detention. The journalist faced two lawsuits that were filed against him by the official of oil products in Mosul, Moaz Al-Nuaimi, in which he accused the journalist of defamation.

- On 29/10/2022, the security services in Sulaymaniyah arrested the reporter of the "Wesha" agency (Hoshyar Ali) while he was leaving his home, and his detention lasted for more than 24 hours.

- On 12/11/2022, the Mayor of Al-Gharraf District in Dhi Qar, Hassan Al-Khafaji, detained the channels' reporters of Al-Taghyir , (Salama

Al-Sarheed) and Fallujah, (Saad Al-Rikabi), for more than half an hour at the police station. Both were arrested during conducting a coverage of the flooded areas in the district due to heavy rainfall.

- On 13/11/2022, armed elements in civilian clothes arrested the cameraman of the "Westke News" channel (Zaniar Mariwan) for more than half an hour inside one of the vehicles, and seized the channel's equipment, to prevent him from covering a student demonstration that erupted near the political office of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan in Sulaymaniya.

- On 9/12/2022, the National Security arrested journalist Muhammad Wahab on charges of owning an opposition Facebook page in Kirkuk.

- on 29/12/2022, AlRabia channel crew was detained in Basra. The crew; Correspondent Ehab AlMaliki and cameraman Ali AlMasi, were severely beaten with clubs. Their equipment was destroyed and phones were confiscated. The action aimed to prevent them from covering a protest against the contracts of the Southern Fertilizers Company.

- Threats:

- On 15/2/2022, UTV received an explicit threat to take firm actions against the channel and the presenter of the program Al-Haq Yuqal, (Truth is Worded), colleague (Adnan Al-Taie) on the background of broadcasting a content in the program that was considered an insult to Abu Fadak Al-Muhammadawi, Chief of Staff of the Popular Mobilization Authority by some parties.

- On 4/8/2022, the office of NRT TV in Dohuk received a phone call from the Duhok police station, in which they warned the channel not to cover any erupting demonstrations.

Raids and Armed Attacks against Journalists' Homes and Media Institutions:

-On 12/3/2022, the headquarters of Kurdistan 24 Channel in Erbil sustained severe damage as a result of the Iranian missile bombardment that hit the house of the general manager of "KAR ."

-On 11/5/2022, unknown gunmen on a motorcycle targeted the house of Al-Ayam TV correspondent, "Kazem Al-Hayawi", in Basra by a Kalashnikov fire, without knowing the reasons .

-On 24/5/2022, the broadcasting station of the local Radio and Television of Duhok in Zakho was subjected to unknown missile shelling, causing serious damage to the building and the station's transmitters, which led to the suspension of broadcasting.

-On 30/5/2022, the car of the journalist (Majid Al-Sudani), who works for Kufa Radio, was set on fire by unknown gunmen in front of his house in Al-Zahraa neighborhood in the center of Najaf Governorate, where surveillance cameras revealed unknown masked gunmen at the moment they set fire to the journalist's wheel, without knowing the reasons.

-On 29/7/2022, Sadrist protesters closed the Al-Furat channel office in Basra, following a political conflict.

-On 6/8/2022, a security force raided the office of the "Rast Media" media organization in Dohuk, on the day of its launch, as the force stormed the channel's building and dismissed all employees, which led to the complete suspension of the institution's work.

-On 29/8/2022, gunmen targeted the Al-Ahed Radio building in the Baladiyat area of Baghdad with mortar shells, resulting in material damage to the building, without causing any human casualties.

-On 30/8/2022, unknown gunmen in Diwaniyah governorate targeted the house of Zagros TV correspondent (Nabil Al-Jubouri) with a hand grenade.

-On 4/10/2022, followers of the Sadrist movement stormed the Al-Rabiaa satellite channel in central Baghdad, and destroyed part of its equipment and furniture on the background what the Sadrist movement considered

an accusation; the Mahdi Army negotiated handing over its weapons to the US army during the previous years.

-On 13/11/2022, Dijlah Satellite Channel was subjected to a systematic campaign of threats and intimidation against the background of the presentation of the program "Al-Makshoof" presented by (Alaa Al-Jubouri and Khamael Khalifa), when on a flag raising ceremony day (Thursdays) in one of the Iraqi schools, another anthem was chanted instead of the national one. the incitement campaign, led by political and armed parties related to the intrusions and threats of many satellite channels and media over the past three years, caused the intimidation of colleagues working in the channel.

-On 25/11/2022, a security force in Sulaymaniyah stormed the house of colleague (Rewa Hussein), who works for the Kurdish-language agency "Zaman Press", and took him to an unknown destination without knowing the reasons, before he was released on bail a few days later.

Injuries:

-On 30/7/2022, Al-Mayadeen TV reporter and cameraman (Abdullah Badran, Zaid Khaled) were injured by shrapnel in the back and leg area, while they were covering the moment the Sadrist followers stormed the main doors of the Green Zone in Baghdad, which led to the interruption of the live broadcast and their transfer to the hospital for treatment.

-On 1/8/2022, the cameraman of Al-Taghyir Channel (Ahmed Khudair Al-Waeli) was slightly injured in his arm, while covering the demonstration of the followers of the Coordination Framework near the Green Zone in central Baghdad, as a result of the stampede between the protesters, he was immediately referred to the hospital.

-On 29/8/2022, the cameraman of Fallujah TV (Saif Ali) was injured in the leg after being beaten with sticks and batons by the security forces, and the correspondent of Kurdistan Channel 24 (Muzaffar Hamid) was injured by shrapnel in the hand, while covering the protests in the Green Zone in Baghdad, which led to their transfer to the hospital for treatment .

-On 30/8/2022, the correspondent of Dijlah TV (Mustafa Latif) was injured in the neck, with stray mortar fragments, while his cameraman colleague (Kamal Raad) was injured in the leg. The incident took place as they were busy covering events near the Green Zone. They were transferred to Al-Karama Hospital for treatment.

-On 28/9/2022, the correspondent of Kurdistan Channel 24 (Soran Kamiran) in Kirkuk was seriously injured while he was in the "Altun Kubri" area to document the damage caused by Iranian shelling on a residential area. Kamiran was transferred to Kirkuk Hospital, and then to Erbil for being hit by many shrapnel in different areas of his body, the most dangerous of which was in his leg.

-On 1/10/2022, a Reuters photographer (Haidar Kazim) was slightly injured in the hand area; security forces were throwing tear gas to end protests near Al-Jumhuri Bridge, in central Baghdad. He returned to coverage from a further place, after dressing his wound by paramedic medical teams near the bridge.

Beatings and coverage obstruction

-On 1/1/2022, a security force in Kirkuk assaulted an NRT reporter (Diyar Mohammed) and smashed his mobile phone while he was covering New Year's celebrations at Kirkuk Center Mall .

-On 1/1/2022, the Basra Health Department prevented colleagues (Ali Al-Battat, correspondent of Al-Etejah TV, Hassan Mazloum, correspondent of Dijlah TV, Musallam Al-Mayahi, correspondent of Huna Baghdad TV, as well as the team of Al-Hurra TV, and Al-Mirbad) from entering Al-Zubair General Hospital, and covering the number of injured, their health condition, and their testimonies about a landmine explosion near the Rumaila oil field, without knowing the reasons .

-On 6/1/2022, former Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kazemi personal security members, prevented several media channels (Dijlah, Al-Furat, Al-Baghdadia, Al-Ahed, iNews, Al-Jazeera) from covering the Prime Minister's visit to the site of Jableh incident in Babylon, and threatened them to be arrested and their equipment to be destroyed in the event of filming. The force seized the crew's cameras in one of the reporters' vehicles to ensure that they were not recording.

-On 11/1/2022, members of the Karbala Police Command prevented Al-Iraqiya TV staff, reporter Hassan Al-Mahalla and cameraman Alaa Najm, from a special coverage of the opening one of the main streets in Al-Husseiniya district in Baghdad. They were only allowed after the officers received an order from the command center to allow them to cover .

-On 27/1/2022, the Reception staff of the Southern Technical University in Basra prevented the correspondent of Al-Mirbad Radio and the staff of Al-Janubiya Channel, reporter Maher Al-Harbi and cameraman Asaad Youssef, from covering a student demonstration outside the university campus. The crew was assaulted and verbally abused.

-On 6/2/2022, members of the Protection Forces of Oil Facilities in Kirkuk prevented the cadres of the channels (KNN and Rudaw) from covering a fire that broke out in the oil pipelines in the Derwaza area, confiscated their personal phones, seized press equipment, deleted the filmed materials, and then demanded that they leave the site without immediately without any clarification.

- On 23/2/2022, the official in charge of the violations campaign in Basra Governorate, Walid Juma'a, prevented the staff of Al-Taghyir Channel, reporter Younis Al-Rubaie and cameraman Amin Khayoun, from covering the campaign to remove violations in the "Al-Broum and Al-Dakir" area, without knowing the reasons.

-On 27/2/2022, the Karbala Emergency Police prevented a group of channels (One News, Al-Iraqiya, Zakrus, Al-Rasheed, Dijlah, and Al-Sharqiya) from covering a fire incident inside the Tuwairej District Hospital, and severely beat the cameraman of Al-Sumaria TV, smashed parts of the channel's camera, and confiscated other equipment.

-On 15/3/2022, the Iraqi ambassador to Lebanon (Haider Al-Barrak) prevented the staff of the Iraqi Media Network there from performing their duties, to cover the visit of an Iraqi delegation concerned with energy to Beirut.

-On 15/3/2022, members of the Asayish in Dohuk severely beat the NRT staff : Taif Gorran and Ahmed Zakri, while they were covering a fire incident in a tourist hotel there.

-On 17/3/2022, the manager of Shereen Bank in Erbil prevented the NRT staff (reporter Murad Surgi and cameraman Ahmed Mohammed) from special coverage of the receipt of financial dues from the families of the martyrs gathering in front of the bank.

-On 20/3/2022, members of the former Prime Minister's protection prevented the cadres of the channels (Al-Ittijah, UTV, Zagros, Dijlah, Al-Taghyir, Al-Hurra Iraq, INEWS, and One News) from covering the former Prime Minister's visit to Mosul to open Al-Batoul Hospital.

-On 27/3/2022, members of the Basra Police prevented the staff of the "Huna Al-Basra" Foundation (reporter Montazer Al-Abadi and cameraman Safaa Hussein) while they were covering the campaign to remove violations from Al-Wufoud Street. The crew was forced to leave the site.

- On 26/4/2022, an Asayish security force prevented a number of satellite channels (Bergraaf Eista, Rudaw, Speda, Pyam, Westke News, Politic News, Char Press, Lat Media, Ruz News, KNN, Nrt) from covering a demonstration organized against the Turkish bombardment of areas in Erbil, near the United Nations building, while the correspondent of the "Bergraaf" channel, (Farman Sadiq), was beaten, after trying to document the demonstration from a distant place. a security officer attacked the staff of the "Eista" channel, forcing them to leave the scene of the demonstration.

-On 11/5/2022, the Prime Minister's Office of the Kurdistan Region banned the cadres of the channels (Kurdsat, Kli Kurdistan, Kirkuk TV, Badinan Sat, Voice of the People of Kurdistan website and radio, Pukmedia) and allowed only channels affiliated with the Kurdistan Democratic Party to cover the conference that was held by the Prime Minister of the region in Erbil about the reasons behind the delay in handing over the salaries of employees in Sulaymaniyah.

-On 18/5/2022, security personnel in Basra prevented the staff of the "Basra News" agency from entering and filming inside a public park in Freedom Square in the center of the governorate, based on orders issued by the Director General of Basra Municipality (Ali Al-Musawi) ; not to allow journalists to enter and film.

-On 19/5/2022, a security officer in Kirkuk Governorate prevented the staff of "Rudaw Satellite Channel" (cameraman Muhammad Shakur Hameed, and the channel's correspondent) from covering a gas station fire incident on Corniche Street in the center of the governorate, where the cameraman was prevented from performing his work. The IDs of the channel's correspondent were taken by force without any justification.

-On 24/5/2022, security and protection forces of a contracting company managed by an investor in Najaf named "Amir Al-Mamouri", and his partner, "Adeeb Al-Mamouri", prevented the staff of Dijlah Satellite Channel (reporter Taher Al-Assaf and cameraman Haider Al-Khafaji) covering the reasons behind the delay of Al-Safir housing project, as the company's security and protection elements prevented them from filming, and tried to seize the channel's camera.

-On 25/5/2022, the organizer of the signing ceremony of "Chatters" ; a book recently released by Dr. Majid Al-Samarrai, prevented the reporter of the "Arai News" agency (Hussein Al-Fayez) from entering the Ziggurat of Akrafov to cover the ceremony, demanding that he should be authorized by the Antiquities Authority and get a permit from the Baghdad Operations Command, despite receiving an official invitation to cover the signing ceremony.

-On 26/5/2022, the director of the students boarding of the Technical Institute in Kirkuk prevented the KNN correspondent (Eugene Ramadan) from filming the buildings adjacent to the institute. The abandoned building has become home for stray animals, and a source of epidemics and diseases. The correspondent was threatened to be detained after his press equipment was seized, unless he cuts filming; he was demanded to leave the site immediately.

-On 29/5/2022, members of the Federal Police prevented the staff of Al-Taghyir Channel, reporter Abbas Al-Mawla and cameraman Ahmed Sami, from reporting the suffering of citizens living in the agricultural areas of Diyala Bridge in Baghdad.

- On 29/5/2022, the director of Azadi Hospital in Kirkuk ordered to prevent the reporter Ahmed Abdullah, of the "Bas News" website from

entering the building despite obtaining a license from the Kirkuk Health Directorate to enter the hospital and perform his journalistic duty.

-On 1/6/2022, the commander of Kirkuk operations, Major General Ali Al-Furaiji, prevented the Rudaw TV staff, correspondent Hardi Muhammad and cameraman Muhammad Shakour, from covering a demonstration organized by the people of the Hisar area of the Kobri district in Kirkuk to protest against the lack of services and electricity scarcity in the province.

- On 6/6/2022, the staff of News1 channel (reporter Ali Khaled and cameraman Hatem Karim) in Karbala were attacked with an electric stick by riot police, and they also tried to seize the camera, after they destroyed many of the staff's equipment, during the dispersal of a demonstration that was held by a number of contract employees in Karbala Education Directorate.

-On 9/6/2022, the Asayish forces prevented the channels (Rudaw, Kurdistan 24, Kurdistan TV, Eista Agency, KNN, NRT, GKTV) from covering the site of the explosion, which occurred between the city of Erbil and Salah al-Din resort, and resulted in human injuries and material damage to shops and civilian vehicles. They also confiscated the teams' equipment to ensure that there was no coverage.

-On 13/6/2022, security personnel in Kirkuk prevented (Mahdi Al-Rabhawi) from the Iraqi News Agency from a special coverage of the Kirkuk municipality gas station, to reveal the reasons for the aggravating fuel crisis in the last days. The forces prevented him from entering the station and completing the coverage despite showing his IDs. The forces also confiscated his mobile phone and deleted all filmed materials.

-On 18/6/2022, the director of Al-Iraqiya TV's offices in Karbala (Hussein Al-Shammari) was subjected to a torrent of insults by the commander of the Federal Police in Karbala, Major General Saleh Al-Ameri, while covering the terrestrial circulation of pilgrims' convoys through the Arar border crossing, in the presence of several officials, security leaders, and the governor of Karbala.

-On 24/6/2022, the Assistant Commander of Karbala Police, Brigadier General Ahmed Abdul Zahra, prevented the cadres of channels

(Governorate Radio, Al-Jarnal, Al-Nidaa newspaper, Al-Baghdadia) from covering a fire incident that broke out in the restaurant "I and Q" located on Al-Senator Street in the center of the governorate, and verbally assaulted the reporter of Al-Baghdadia Channel (Fadel Al-Ghazi), and threatened the media teams with beatings if they continued coverage.

-On 11/7/2022, a traffic policeman prevented the staff of Al-Ahed TV from covering the atmosphere of Eid al-Adha in Al-Shula area in Baghdad, demanding a letter from the Baghdad Operations to allow coverage. The staff was denied from coverage and had the IDs taken away and finally ordered to immediately leave the site.

-On 1/8/2022, a number of the "Coordination Framework" followers prevented the staff of Al-Iraqiya TV (reporter Ahmed Aram and cameraman Ahmed Majed) from covering the framework demonstration, as a number of protesters stormed the filming site and prevented the staff from covering, under the pretext that the channel is affiliated with the government of former Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kazemi, forcing them to stop filming and withdraw for their personal safety.

-On 8/8/2022, Saraya al-Salam elements in Najaf prevented reporters of a number of media channels (Haidar Farman, cameraman of Al-Iraqiya channel and correspondent of the National News Agency, Muhammad Al-Ghalbi, correspondent of One News, Taher Al-Assaf, correspondent of Dijlah TV, in Fallujah, Moataz Al-Aboudi, correspondent of Zakros, Reuters, Muhammad Razzaq, correspondent of Al-Taghyir channel) from covering a fire that broke out in one of its headquarters, which resulted in human injuries.

-On 10/8/2022, the local government in Mosul prevented the cadres of (Al-Taghyir, One News, Alhurra Iraq, UTV, iNews) from covering the visit of former Prime Minister Mustafa Al-Kazemi to open a number of service projects in the governorate, and only allowed government channels to cover (Iraqia and the Turkmen channel).

-On 29/8/2022, an officer with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel prevented (UTV correspondent Haider Al-Badri and cameraman Abdulmalik Faisal) from covering the demonstrators when storming the presidential palace in

the Green Zone in Baghdad, threatening them with detention if they continued coverage.

-On 29/8/2022, a security force prevented the correspondent of Kurdistan 24 Channel (Rukan Al-Jaf), the correspondent of Fallujah Channel (Hassan Muhammad Amori), and the staff of Al-Arabiya Al-Hadath, and confiscated their press equipment to prevent them from covering the protests in the Green Zone in Baghdad.

- On 29/8/2022, AP correspondent Hadi Mezban was beaten by the Green Zone Protection force while covering the protests, and all his press equipment was confiscated to prevent him from filming.

-On 4/9/2022, the security forces in Halabja prevented the cadres of several media channels; Walia Hama Karim, NRT correspondent, Irfan Ahmed from Sepeda correspondent, Bas News, Kli Kurdistan, and Rudaw TV cameraman, from covering the protests of the unemployed against the background of accusations against the Halabja Health Director of appointing 130 people from his relatives and acquaintances, as the forces confiscated journalists' equipment, and beat NRT reporter (Walia Hama Karim) and his team, after preventing them from covering the demonstration in front of a government building in the city.

-On 6/9/2022, the Antiquities Police in Kirkuk Governorate prevented the Iraqi Turkmen TV team; reporter Hussein Turkash and cameraman Sadiq Awni, from covering the cleaning campaign of Kirkuk Citadel, despite receiving an invitation to cover the campaign, demanding that they obtain an official letter of approval so that they can film inside the site.

-On 8/9/2022, the Basra Operations Command prevented the cadres of the channels (Al-Etjah, Al-Ahed, Al-Janoubia, and Al-Naim) from covering the entry of Iranian visitors from the Shalamjah border crossing, under the pretext of having directives to prevent coverage.

-On 12/9/2022, riot police in Salhiya area of Baghdad prevented the staff of the Huna Baghdad channel (reporter Ronak Al-Janabi and cameraman Mustafa Manaf) while they were covering a demonstration organized by a number of lecturers in front of the Ministry of Education to demand the release of their financial dues.

-On 19/9/2022, Asayish elements prevented the correspondent of the "Westke News" Foundation (Nabz Rashad) and the correspondents of (Politic Press and Easta News) from covering a fire that broke out in shops in a market in Erbil. The press crews were insulted after they tried to enter the area of the incident, whereas the coverage was limited to regional authority channels.

-On 26/9/2022, the security forces in Kirkuk prevented the staff of Al-Iraqiya and KNN channels (reporter Eugene Ramadan and cameraman Qais Sabah) from covering the performance of the Laylan Cement Factory, which press reports revealed that certain filters are not used in the production line, a reason for the spread of incurable diseases in the area.

-On 27/9/2022, the staff of Dijlah TV (reporter Taher Al-Assaf, and cameraman Zaid Al-Salami) was beaten by employees of a contracting company, while the cameramen were documenting the stages of implementation Al-Zahra bridge of the "Nim" Contracting Company in Najaf Governorate.

-On 28/9/2022, the security forces in Kirkuk prevented the staff of Kirkuk and Kurdsat News channels (Karwan Mohammed, Issa Nur al-Din, Youssef Murad, Dara Wan Ali) from covering the destruction of "Altun Kobri" district as a result of the successive Iranian shelling, and withdrew the camera equipment, which led to the breaking of the camera of the (Kurdsat News) channel.

-On 1/10/2022, the Soran District Police of Erbil Governorate prevented the correspondent of Speda TV colleague (Younis Hamed), from covering a student demonstration organized by students of the Golan School in Soran district, in protest against the deterioration of services in public schools.

-On 7/10/2022, the security forces in Erbil prevented a number of journalist colleagues (Westke correspondent Nabz Rashad, Rudaw TV staff, cameraman Ahmed Younis and reporter Farhad Dulamari) while they were covering a car bomb explosion on Bakhtiari Street in Erbil. The staff was beaten, the press equipment was confiscated, and part of the equipment of (Nabz Rashad) was destroyed.

-On 23/10/2022, the management of the Electric Power Oil Company in Basra issued instructions to prevent all media outlets from entering and coverage, after the collapse of the electrical system in the governorate, and prevented the staff of "One News" channel, reporter Atheer Al-Abdi and cameraman Ahmed Saleh, from entering and coverage.

-On 25/10/2022, the security forces in Tahrir Square in Baghdad prevented the crews of the channels (Al-Baghdadi, Al-Hurra, Al-Jazeera, iNews, Al-Taghyir, Al-Iraqiya, Fallujah, TRT, and NRT) from covering a so called "Tishreen" gathering protesters to remember the protests that erupted in 2019.

-On 7/11/2022, army security personnel in Kirkuk prevented the Speda TV cadre, reporter Alan Nashat and cameraman Muhammad Ayoub, from covering the crowded queues of cars in front of the "Ashra Nesan" fuel station, to find investigate the reasons of the crisis.

-On 7/11/2022, elements of the Federal Police in Kirkuk seized the equipment of the NRT channel staff, reporter Diyar Muhammad and cameraman Nabz Miqdad, and the staff of Zoom Media Foundation, , reporter Rukan Mahmoud and cameraman Karzan Muhammad, on their way back from covering security developments in Daquq district, after receiving information of activity of ISIS cells, as they were stopped by one of the checkpoints in the area, seized their press equipment, and erased all recorded material.

-On 12/11/2022, the correspondent of the Zagros satellite channel, Mustafa Salman, was beaten, by an Asayish security officer, while covering the fire that broke out in the courtyard of a nearby restaurant, from the Cristal Hotel in Erbil, where the officer tried to seize the reporter's personal phone to delete the recorded materials, and when the reporter refused to hand over his mobile, he was beaten.

- On 13/11/2022, armed elements wearing civilian clothes prevented KNN TV correspondent (Briar Namiq) from covering a student demonstration, which began in Sulaymaniyah near the political bureau of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, and seized the channel's equipment.

-On 13/11/2022, members of the security forces surrounded the vehicle of "Westka News" reporter (Lania Bakhitar), and took her to a street behind

the Sulaymaniyah Court, to prevent her from covering a student demonstration, which started near the political office of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan.

-On 20/11/2022, members of the Maysan police smashed the camera of Al-Mirbad Foundation crew, reporter Jassim Al-Ansari and photographer Aws Al-Anzi, while they were covering the demonstration of educational graduates in front of the governorate education building, and the security forces verbally assaulted the cameraman, and tried to arrest him, before the demonstrators intervened and he escaped.

-On 26/11/2022, members of the riot forces in the Kadhimiya area of Baghdad prevented the cadres of channels (Iraq Fox, Al-Sharqiya, and NRT), from covering a demonstration organized by the people of the region to allow them to bring building materials to the "Tai" area in Kadhimiya. the cameraman of Iraq Fox channel ,Ali Kazem Al-Karimawi was beaten with batons.

-On 1/12/2022, a school principal in Diwaniyah Governorate prevented the staff of Al-Iraqiya TV (reporter Amin Al-Hilali and cameraman Farhan Al-Ziyadi) from entering the school and covering the sewage overflow, despite obtaining a coverage approval from the Governorate's Education Directorate.

-On 14/12/2022, a security officer prevented Al-Sharqia TV crew, reporter Idris Jawad and cameraman Qusai Fouad, from covering the gathering that was organized by Baghdad Municipality to broadcast one of the Qatar World Cup matches, through its screens in Tahrir Square. The officer demanded that they obtain a letter of authorization from the Baghdad Operations Command.

-On 17/12/2022, the protection of the current Prime Minister prevented Al-Sumaria TV correspondent Farouk Saleh and the channel's cameraman along with a number of other media correspondents (Muhammad Fares, correspondent of Al-Ghadeer Channel, Mustafa Alloush, correspondent of Al-Rabiaa Channel, Muhammad Saad, correspondent of Al-Sharqiya Channel, Mustafa Saker, correspondent of NRT Channel) from entering the Gilgamesh Hall inside the Babylon

Hotel in Baghdad, to cover the meetings of the Supreme Council of the Union of Arab Engineers in its 78th session.

- On 26/12/2022, army elements prevented the teams of the "UTV channel and Time Square Radio" from entering the Olympic Mena Stadium in Basra. The teams were denied to cover the opening ceremony, despite the fact that the media channels in Basra have received the coverage invitation from the Ministry of Youth and Sports to attend the opening ceremony, but the army forces near the stadium, prevented them from entering and only allowed Al-Iraqiya channel to enter and cover.

-On 26/12/2022, the crew of " Kurdistan 24" channel; reporter Hoshmand Sadiq and cameraman Haval Mohammed, were severely beaten by the protection of the "Lanaz" oil refineries, while documenting the refinery fire incident, on the Erbil-Al-Gwer road. The forces stormed the live broadcast site, stopped filming, confiscated press equipment and threatened the journalists with arrest if filming continued.

Lawsuits, Warrants and Court Sentences:

- On 7/4/2022, the Iraqi judiciary issued an arrest warrant and investigation against the presenter (Ahmed Mulla Talal) against the background of broadcasting a content in which he revealed corruption in the military system, and the Ministry of Defense considered it an insult to military leaders. the warrant was issued based on Article (226) of the Iraqi Penal Code.

-On 28/5/2022, the head of the Fatah bloc, Hadi Al-Amiri, filed a lawsuit against the presenter of the program Al-Nas wa Al-Watan, Mustafa Al-Rubaie, on the background of what a citizen stated concerning an incident that he had witnessed from the last year. the program was broadcasted on the Iraqi satellite channel .

-On 28/5/2022, the National Security Agency in Baghdad demanded that the authorities of the Kurdistan Region hand over the presenter of (Biwudhouh= clearly put) program on Zagros TV, (Muhammad Jabbar). The demand was based on the issuance of an attendance order on (15/11/2021) without informing him .

- On 16/6/2022, the Speaker of the Iraqi Council of Representatives, Muhammad Al-Halbousi, filed a complaint with the First Karkh Investigation Court against Al-Taghyir Satellite Channel and its director (Najm Al-Rubaie. The complaint was filed on the grounds that the presenter deliberately raised a question that prompted his former parliamentary guest (Mishaan Al-Jubouri) to make statements that Al-Halbousi considered to affect security and civil peace in the country.
- On 17/8/2022, the correspondent of Dijlah TV in Muthanna Governorate, Hussein Al-Khazali, received a notification to attend the Al-Soub Al-Sagheer police station against the background of a lawsuit filed by the pharmacist (Ali Ayad) following a televised report prepared by the reporter. The report investigated the death of a young man due to a medical error committed by the pharmacist.
- On 18/8/2022, the Sulaymaniyah Security Directorate filed a lawsuit against the colleague of the NRT correspondent in Switzerland, Karwan Mohammed, on charges of defaming the work of the security services in Sulaimania, on the background of writing a post on a Facebook page, in which he accused the Asayish of negligence in arresting terrorist groups.
- On 9/9/2022, the Kirkuk Education Directorate filed a complaint to the Kirkuk Investigation Court and the National Security Directorate, against the news anchor, (Adnan Al-Tunji), on the Tert channel, accusing him of publishing the news of the Integrity Commission on social media, including the issuance of a recruitment order for three officials in the Kirkuk Education Directorate, in which it accused the integrity of manipulating the file of appointing lecturers, and not paying their financial dues, despite their continued work.
- On 29/9/2022, the judge of the Sulaimania Investigation Court issued a sentence to imprison the correspondent of the "Diplomatic" media organization, (Bashdar Abu Bakr Baziani), for ten days pending investigation, following two lawsuits, by the mayor of Sulamaniah, Tuana Kamal, and the investor Mulla Yassin, on the background of the reporter's publication of a press report, which revealed suspicions of corruption and manipulation of a land operation in the province by the director of the municipality and the investor.

-On 13/11/2022, political and armed parties related to the storming and threats of many satellite channels and media outlets over the past three years filed a lawsuit on charges of violating the sanctities on Dijlah TV, on the background of what was put forward by the presenters of the "Al-Makshoof" program, Alaa Al-Jubouri and Khamael Khalifa, after they showed a video clip showing the ceremony of raising the Iraqi flag in a school in the Rusafa area in Baghdad, in which the school administration uses a foreign anthem instead of the national anthem.

Closures and Lay-Offs

On 8/4/2022, the Iraqi Media Network issued an administrative order to terminate the services of the journalist and presenter of the program "In Brief", Saleh Al-Hamdani, on the background of his comment on a post dating back to 2012 on his personal Facebook page, which the network considered a violation of paragraph V of Article 5 of the Network Law, which stipulated (promoting and supporting democratic principles and practices, encouraging acceptance of other opinions and a culture of tolerance).

Formal Restrictions:

-On 5/4/2022, the Media and Communications Commission ordered the suspension of "With Mulla Talal" program on the UTV satellite channel, based on a recommendation issued by the Ministry of Defense, against the background of a dialogue he presented with the artist Iyad Al-Taie about "corruption files" within the military system, claiming the evidence of Articles 1 / of Chapter Two (incitement to violence and hatred), and 4 of Chapter Two (accuracy, integrity and transparency) of the media broadcasting regulations, to close the program. The reality of the situation is that they *acted* such a dialogue and it does not include incitement to violence or hatred.

-On 13/4/2022, the CMC issued a warning to UTV channel at the request of the Shiite Waqf, regarding the content of a series, in which the CMC demanded that the channel sign a pledge not to repeat these violations, for

what it considered to be an insult to the feelings of the social sectors, and a violation of the Commission's media broadcasting rules.

-On 22/5/2022, the Media and Communications Commission issued a directive to all media outlets to prevent the appearance of political analyst Najah Muhammad Ali on the grounds of his statements, which the Commission described in its book as inciting to violence and hatred, based on freedom of expression, Article 38 of the Iraqi Constitution, Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

-On 1/6/2022, the Iraqi Media Network stopped the "Al-Muhayid= Unbiased" program on the background of hosting the presenter Dr. Saadoun Mohsen Damad of journalist Sarmad Al-Taie, who warned from the emergence of new dictatorships in the country, criticizing the arrest warrants issued by the Supreme Judicial Council, as the network's Board of Trustees issued its decision late at night, and published it on one of the agencies affiliated with the Chairman of the Commission, Jaafar Al-Wanan, without any meeting or vote by the members of the Commission to stop the program, and prevent the writer Sarmad Al-taii from being hosted.

-On 16/6/2022, the CMC issued a circular in which it obligated all media outlets and their employees to work according to contexts set by the CMC outside the legal authority of the Commission's mandate, and the circular included that "the media avoid any unprofessional content in news bulletins, talk shows and any media material that contributes to the spread of negative hostile practices that lead to provoking civil conflicts between the components of Iraqi society, and threaten civil peace, as well as staying away from convulsive statements" because the Commission considered that expressing an opinion is not a right, at a time when the Iraqi constitution guaranteed freedom of expression.

-On 18/6/2022, the Media and Communications Commission issued a directive to all media outlets to prevent the appearance of the brother of the former governor of Basra, Ismail Musbah Al-Waeli, based on Diwani Order (65) of 2004 in force, and Article 38 guaranteeing freedom of journalistic work, and the Commission said that it "issued the circular for Al- Waeli for violating the media broadcasting regulations, by issuing

statements targeting the political and democratic process, and provoking conflict among the components of society".

-On 26/9/2022, the mayor of Khanaqin issued a circular to the Judicial Police, not to allow any press reporter or media team to work within the boundaries of Khanaqin without obtaining official approvals .

-On 5/10/2022, the CMC warned Dijlah Satellite Channel to prevent the appearance of civil activist (Azhar Shalal Al-Jumaili), on the background of the broadcasted content he released during his hosting on the political program "The Decision is Yours". He was demanded an official apology for the media violations in the program.

-On 7/10/2022, the Basra Education Directorate issued a directive to all school administrations to prevent any employee or teacher from disclosing any issues and problems of the educational institution, to the media or social platforms.

-On 31/10/2022, the Enforcement Department of the Ministry of Justice issued a circular prohibiting all media from entering the department's buildings in all governorates of the country, under the pretext of maintaining security and the safety of employees .

-On 27/11/2022, the Director General of Maysan Education (Riyad Mejbel Al-Saadi) issued a circular to the school administration to prevent all media from entering school buildings, unless holding an official letter issued by the Directorate exclusively, and that the satellite channels are accompanied during their coverage, by a journalist from the Directorate.

Other :

On 20/1/2022, many journalists in the governorates of (Basra, Maysan, Dhi Qar, Kirkuk, Baghdad) were humiliated, expelled and disgraced while they were in front of the delivery outlets of the journalists' grant specified by the Iraqi Ministry of Culture, amounting to five hundred thousand Iraqi dinars (about \$ 350).

Conclusion and Recommendations:

The recorded figures indicate the continuation of the authoritarian dictatorial approach in the continuous restrictions on the press and media, and the increasing cases of violations by the security forces and government agencies, as well as the closures and arrests in violation of the constitution, issued by the Media and Communications Commission, and many administrative government institutions, contrary to what is stipulated in the constitution and international treaties and covenants.

Armed forces also continue to threaten and impend journalists, which has further restricted the freedom of journalistic work in Iraq, by proclaiming the sword of legislation inherited from the dictatorial era against journalists and opinion makers, and notifying all journalists of insecurity if they publish what they consider "prohibited", or hosting those who do not conform to their whims.

During the years 2021 and 2022, a new phenomenon emerged, the hero of which was the Media and Communications Commission, which unconstitutionally and illegally directed the media to prevent the hosting of people branded as "harmful to the political system and civil peace".

The Press Freedom Advocacy Association in Iraq / PFAA, while indicating the similarity of the dictatorial approach by the authority and armed parties, stresses that this circumstance makes journalists the soft spot that is easy to pressure and silence, threaten, and displace, or assassinate and possibly kidnap. after the interim government severed all its promises to protect freedom of expression and the press, and provide the necessary security for journalists, after they were subjected to the most heinous cases of threats and prosecution during the wave of protests in October 2019, which lasted until the end of Year 2020.

At the legislative level, the Iraqi Council of Representatives is still locked within political wills, which occasionally submit controversial bills to delay all attempts to submit constitutional bills that protect and enhance press freedom, which confirms the political consensus to narrow the space for freedom of journalistic work even further.

Recommendations

Accordingly, the Press Freedom Advocacy Association in Iraq recommends the following:

- The Prime Minister should hold accountable all parties, personalities and elements that caused all these violations.
- Announce the results of the investigations of the committees that have pursued the cases of assassinations, prosecutions, threats and intimidation of journalists in recent years.
- The Iraqi government adheres to what it has pledged; to move forward the file of ending impunity for crimes against journalists, and to set a time period for exposing the killers of journalists in Iraq.
- Opening a transparent investigation with the heads of the Media and Communications Commission to clarify the reasons for issuing directives that are not within their powers or mandate, and their dealings with the media as the dissolved Ministry of Information.
- The Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces directs all security agencies to stop attacking journalists on any occasion, at any time and place, and in an unfortunate police manner. Any violation should be held accountable.
- Journalists submit their demands to the authorities to stop the security abuse, to stop the policelike behavior followed by most of the operations commands in the country.
- The Iraqi Council of Representatives has to stop all controversial bills that contradict the Iraqi Constitution and international conventions and treaties, and move towards legislating the laws related to the promotion of freedom of journalistic work, in particular the draft law on the right to access information.
- Calling on UN and international organizations to pressure the Iraqi authorities to pay attention to the status quo of journalists in Iraq, stop authoritarian interference on media content, and end political courtesies and of interest-oriented nature.

-The Iraqi Council of Ministers fulfills its duties towards imprisoned journalists in the Kurdistan Region and deters the dictatorial behavior followed by the regional authorities towards fellow journalists there.

-Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani sets a time ceiling for executing his pledge that is part of the government's program; to protect freedom of expression and the press.



جمعية الدفاع عن حرية الصحافة
Press Freedom Advocacy Association