

Dynamic Coalition on the Sustainability of Journalism and News Media



Annual Work Report 2024

Dynamic Coalition on the Sustainability of Journalism and News Media

*Submitted by the Global Forum for Media Development,
in the capacity of DC-Journalism Secretariat*



1. Background info about the DC

Established in April 2019 the Dynamic Coalition on the Sustainability of Journalism and News Media (DC-Journalism)¹ is a multi-stakeholder initiative formally operating within the Internet Governance Forum. It serves as a hub for the journalism, news media, press freedom, journalism support, and media development communities to engage with important Internet governance and digital policy matters.

The DC-Journalism was founded as a key recommendation in a [2018 issue paper](#) produced by the Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD) and its partners. The paper specifically identified the sustainability of journalism and news media in the digital age as an area urgently requiring greater policy support. Over the past five years, the coalition has evolved into a dynamic platform for discussions about media sustainability. With its global membership, it provides a space to assess national-level and global opportunities and challenges related to various solutions that governments, advocacy organisations, and newsrooms are exploring to diversify revenue streams. More information about DC-Journalism is available at: <https://groups.io/g/dc-journalism>.

2. Activities conducted in the past year

Activities within the IGF

While DC-Journalism initially planned to participate in IGF 2024, the coalition decided against hosting an in-person session due to the event taking place in Saudi Arabia, as it was difficult to guarantee the safety of in-person participants and speakers. However, the Secretariat and co-coordinators still engaged within the IGF via online participation, and some of the members of the DC-Journalism were also able to participate in person.

2024 Annual Report: Dynamic Coalition on the Sustainability of Journalism and News Media (expected)

Due to the challenges in coordinating the editing and launch of the 2024 Annual Report of the DC-Journalism, and with the news of Norway organising the IGF in June 2025, the decision taken by the co-coordinators was to put on hold the Annual Report and launch it by mid-2025.

Activities beyond the IGF

Digital Governance processes

Related to the conversations on digital governance and the future of the Internet Governance Forum and the World Summit on the Information Society, some members of the DC-Journalism

¹ In 2023, the Dynamic Coalition rebranded its short name to DC-Journalism from DC-Sustainability. This document uses the new short name throughout, including with reference to activities in the past.

participated in the conversations during [NetMundial+10](#) aimed at strengthening digital policy processes under the principles of multistakeholderism, transparency, accountability, accessibility, and inclusivity, among others. These principles have also been key in the advocacy around the Global Digital Compact, as reflected in [this statement](#) drafted and supported by DC-Journalism members, DW Akademie and GFMD, in addition to the inclusion of the media community as a key stakeholder to be engaged in internet governance discussions.

Learning Calls

Due to limited capacity, co-coordinators and the DC-Journalism Secretariat have tried to co-organise learning calls via their respective organisations, in which members of the DC-Journalism have been invited to participate, speak, or co-organise. This approach made the process of organising such calls more streamlined and effective.

More broadly, members of the dynamic coalition routinely share information and collaborate on issues that come out of the coalition's work.

Assessment of the priorities and objectives for 2024

Priority / Objective	Month - Activity	Outcomes/Discussion
2024 DC-Journalism Report	<i>December</i>	Publication postponed for IGF 2025
Learning Calls (at least two of these learning calls to be organised during 2024)	<i>July</i>	Center for Journalism and Liberty: Fair Compensation Working Group: Special Guest from the French Competition Authority
	<i>August</i>	GFMD Learning Call on Coordinating Policy and Advocacy Working Groups
	<i>November</i>	GFMD Policy Meeting Debrief on the U.N. Summit of the Future and Upcoming Opportunities.
IGF 2024	<i>December</i>	<i>No official participation in the IGF2024 by the DC-Journalism.</i> However, members who were able to attend used the mailing list to collaborate, meet, and find potential speakers and participants for their sessions.
Engagement with DC-Journalism members	<i>January - December</i>	Engagement has been lower, with the exception of some learning calls and email threads.



		In 2024, we welcomed 2 new members to the Dynamic Coalition
Other	<i>V Anniversary of the DC-Journalism</i>	In November 2024, the DC-Journalism celebrated its V Anniversary.
	<i>Co-Coordinator Elections</i>	An election process was launched during December for the members to nominate and elect the three co-coordinators of the DC-Journalism for 2025-2027.

3. Updates on internal processes

The GFMD-coordinated mailing list of the Dynamic Coalition on the Sustainability of Journalism and News Media (DC-Journalism) is an active hub for discussion on the links between Internet governance and media sustainability. The group currently has 336 members. During 2023, there were around 49 updates and messages sent to the mailing list.

V Anniversary of the DC-Journalism

On November 27, 2024, the Dynamic Coalition on the Sustainability of Journalism and News Media [celebrated the 5th anniversary of its Charter](#), reaffirming its commitment to journalism sustainability. The coalition acknowledged the outstanding contributions of co-coordinators Courtney Radsch, Daniel O’Maley, and Waqas Naeem, whose leadership has strengthened engagement. To ensure continued momentum, the coalition has launched the election process for the 2025–2027 co-coordinator cycle, inviting new voices to shape its future.

Election of new DC-Journalism Co-coordinators

The Dynamic Coalition on the Sustainability of Journalism and News Media successfully concluded its co-coordinator election process for the 2025–2027 term. **Lei Ma, Nompilo Simanje, and Aws Al-Saadi** were elected to lead the coalition, bringing fresh perspectives to its mission. To ensure a smooth transition, outgoing co-coordinators Waqas Naeem and Courtney Radsch will continue to provide guidance in an advisory capacity for the upcoming six months. The coalition expressed gratitude to all candidates and members for their engagement and is now looking forward to advancing its work under the new leadership.

4. Priorities/objectives for 2025

The main goal of the DC-Journalism work plan for 2024 is to keep re-engaging the community and encouraging its members to be more involved in topics and issues related to internet governance and media development. Learning from the challenges encountered in 2024, and

facing the uncertainty of the financial crisis of most of the civil society, but with the help, directions, and expertise of our newly elected co-coordinators, the DC-Journalism will do its best to continue organising and coordinating:

- **2024-2025 DC-Journalism Report:** publication of the collaborative report that was expected for 2024.
- **Learning Calls:** The objective of this activity is to encourage DC-Journalism members to exchange knowledge and facilitate interactive and constructive dialogue among them. These calls will also include the participation of relevant experts or platform representatives that could inform and update members on emerging issues, new policies developments, etc. Based on 2024's performance, the DC-Journalism aims to co-organise at least two learning calls during 2025.
- **Engagement with DC-Journalism members:** To ensure an open-participation of the members of the Dynamic Coalition, coordination calls, email threads and other communications with planning purposes will be open to all members.
- **IGF 2025:** Due to the changes in the session requirements, with no specific track for Dynamic Coalitions to submit a session proposal, the DC-Journalism is open to collaborate with other Dynamic Coalitions to co-organise a joint session under the different sub-themes of IGF 2025.

Through these efforts, DC-Journalism seeks to elevate **media sustainability as a key priority in Internet governance discussions**, advocating for its recognition as an essential component of the digital policy landscape throughout the different processes taking place in 2025.