

Invitation to an Information and Dialogue Visit for German-speaking Journalists to Armenia

Against the backdrop of the global rise of international conflicts, the South Caucasus, its affairs and issues remain largely marginal to the attention of European media and policymakers alike.

Following the 2020 Karabakh War, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the expulsion of the Armenian population of Nagorno Karabakh, the future of the region remains uncertain. Talks between Armenia and Azerbaijan continue to go through periods of intense negotiations and even more extended periods of stalemate interrupted by escalations on the border. Meanwhile, possible changes in Armenia's foreign policy, soaring relations with Russia, and its rapprochement with the EU hint that all stakeholders have a long and unknown road ahead. In these circumstances, it is often difficult to fully grasp and report on such complex topical issues.

The Representation of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Armenia invites German-speaking journalists and correspondents to participate in a study visit to Armenia in order to better familiarize themselves with the country's and region's issues that are not only topical for the local scene but also consequential for the wider European communities.

The working language of the visit is English.

During the study visit, the journalists will be provided the opportunity to

- Meet and discuss with the country's leading political experts, state officials, MPs, representatives of civil society, human rights activists, etc.
- Visit editorial offices of leading Armenian media outlets specialized in everyday news, analysis, investigative journalism, and security-related coverage.
- Visit areas of conflict, settlements and people affected by the recent military escalations.
- Connect with local journalists.
- Other opportunities for preparing stories, articles, and documentaries.

The costs of the program (travel expenses, accommodation, meals, and other program-related expenses) will be covered by Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung.

Duration: 21-27 July 2024

How to apply: To participate in the visit, aspiring candidates should send their CVs and links to samples of their works to <u>narek.sukiasyan@fes.de</u> by 15th of May 2024, with the subject line "application media visit."

For questions and inquiries regarding any aspect of the program, do not hesitate to contact <u>narek.sukiasyan@fes.de</u>.