

EOJM



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The fourth quarterly report of 2020 comes amid the continuous consequences of spreading the new Coronavirus strain "Covid-19" across the world, which started its second wave at the end of 2020 and caused an increase in the number of infections of this global pandemic. The recorded numbers reached millions of Humans across the world. Journalists in Egypt ended their year (2020) between working remotely from home in specific months, then they returned back to work within the institutions after the new infection rate of the Coronavirus has decreased, and the year ended with a decision issued by the National Press Authority that it was necessary to reduce the employment within the press institution to reduce crowding inside Workplaces, activating work (online), giving the priority to people with chronic diseases, and other cases that require this. However, these exceptional circumstances have not succeeded in reducing the violations against journalists and media professionals. The last three months of 2020 witnessed a remarkable diversity in the types of violations.

In this frame, the "Egyptian Observatory for Journalism and Media" issued the 4th quarterly statistical report (October - December 2020) with the aim of shedding light on the violations that journalists have been subjected to in this quarter of the year. The report also aims to draw a picture of media freedoms state through presentation comment-

ing on the most important developments and decisions that were approved during this period of time, regarding issues of press and media affairs. Hence, the current report is divided into three sections as follows:

The first section provides a graphic presentation for the violations that journalists and media professionals are subjected to during this period. The monitoring and documentation unit has recorded 110 violations cases during the 4th quarter of 2020 as about 88.2% of the total number were directly recorded and about 11.8% of the total number of violations were indirectly recorded.

Shape No. (1) Distribute violations according to the "Type of Documentation"



Males were the most vulnerable to the violations in the 4th quarter of the past year 2020 as they were exposed to about 68.2% of the total violations comparing to 27.3% of the violations occurred for females, while about 4.5% of the total violations were documented as unspecific because they occurred to the Online newspapers.

Shape No. (2) Distribute violations according to the "Journalist's Gender"



The photojournalists were the most vulnerable to violations as they were exposed to about 63.6% of the total violations, meanwhile about 20% of the total violations against journalists. It was recorded about 4.5% of the total violations against editors, 3.7% against reporters and similar to them against unspecified agencies, 2.7% against broadcasters and about 0.9% against (editor in chief and media institution).

Shape No. (3) Distribute violations according to the "Journalist's Specialization"



Journalist



Photojournalist



Reporter



Editor



Broadcaster



Unspecific



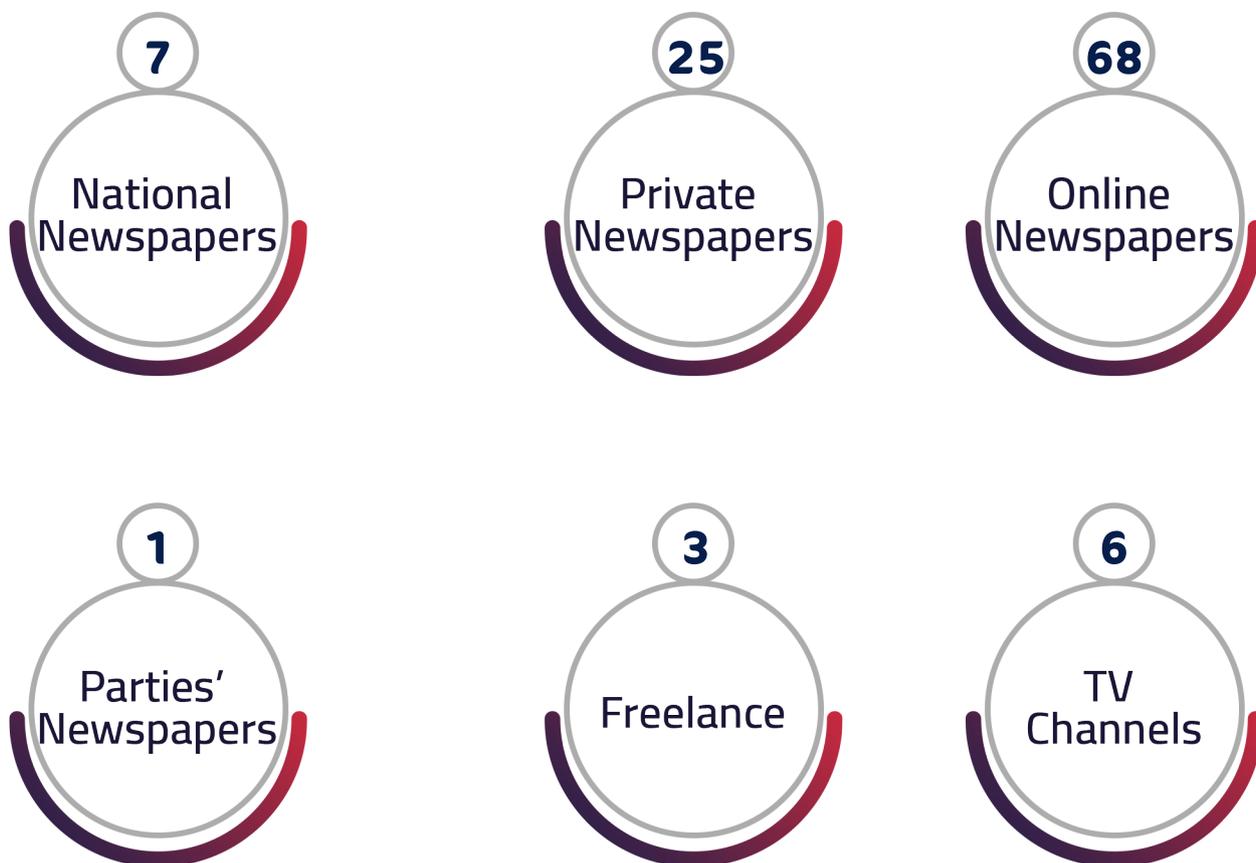
Media Institution



Editor In Chief

The numbers refer during the latest 3 months of 2020 that the websites workers were the most vulnerable to violations with 61.8% of the total violations, while it was recorded about 22.7% of the total violations against the private newspapers workers, about 6.4% against the national newspapers workers, 5.5% against TV channels workers, 2.7% against the freelance journalists and finally 0.9% against parties' newspapers workers.

Shape No. (4) Distribute violations according to the "Journalist's Work Place"



During the 4th quarter of 2020, the journalists and media professionals were exposed to various types of violations, the most distinguished were prevention from journalistic and media coverage with 64.5% of the total violation cases, followed by the inappropriate treatment with 12.7% of the total violations. It was also recorded about 3.6% of the violations where the journalistic and media contents were removed, while about 2.7% for each (Verbal abuse, Arbitrary dismissal), 1.8% of the total violations for each (suspension from work, suspending a TV program, blocking material rights) and finally 0.9% of the total violations was recorded for each (Hacking a website, verbal threaten, blocking a website, stealing personal belongings, imposing a fine, preventing from a headquarter entrance, preventing from being appeared, arresting and charging).

Shape No. (5) Distribute violations according to the "Violation Type"



Verbal abuse

3



Removing journalistic content

4



Inappropriate treatment

14



Coverage prevention

71



Blocking material rights

1



Suspending TV program

2



Work prevention

1



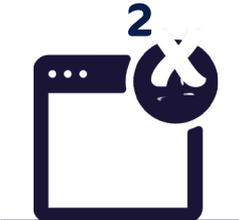
Arbitrary Dismissal

3



Stealing personal belongings

1



Blocking a website

1



Verbal threaten

1



Hacking a website

1



Arresting or charging

1



Preventing from being appeared

1



Preventing from a headquarter entrance

1

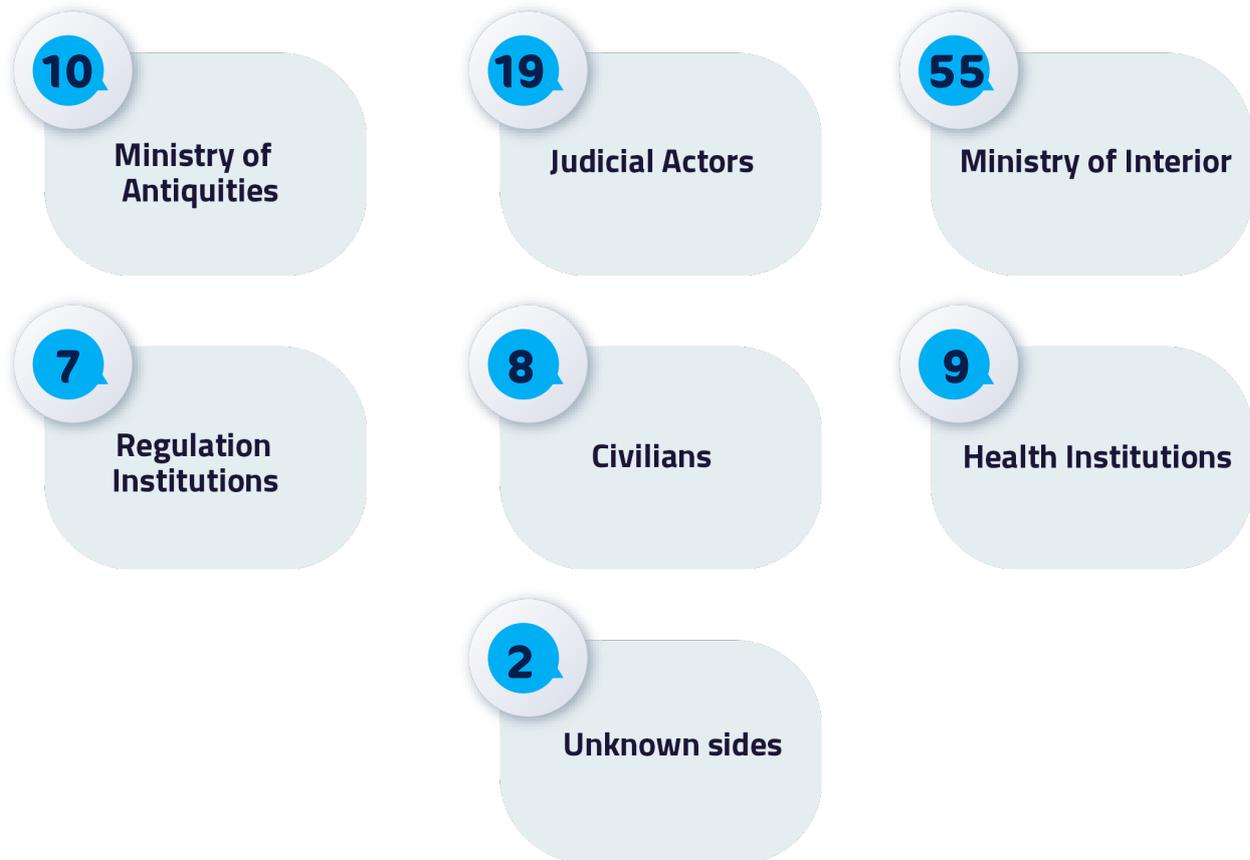


Imposing a fine

1

The Ministry of Interior topped the most offenders to violate the journalists and media professionals' rights during the 4th quarter of 2020 with 50% of the total violations, in the second phase was the judicial actors with 17.3% of the total violations, while the Ministry of Antiquities came on the third phase with 0.9% of the total violations, followed by the journalistic and media institutions with about 8.1% of the total violations, after that the civilians with percentage about 6.4% of the total violations and finally were the unknown sides with percentage about 1.8%.

Shape No. (6) Distribute violations according to the "Offender Type"



On the geographical scope, the foundation could monitor and document 110 violation cases across 8 governorates in whole the country during the 4th quarter of 2020. Giza governorate topped the most governorates where occurred the most cases of violations with about 67.3% of the total violations, followed by Cairo Governorate with about 22.7% of the total violations, then Qalubia and Dakahlia Governorates with about 2.7% of the total violations for each of them, while it was recorded 1.8% of the total violations in Alexandria Governorate and about 0.9% of the total violations for Suhag, Qena and Luxor.

Shape No. (7) Distribute violations according to the "Geographical Scope"



The Second Section covers the most important developments, decisions and statements which have been issued by the bodies concerned with regulating press and media work in Egypt (The Supreme Council for Media Regulation, Journalists' Syndicate, Media Syndicate and the National Press Authority). During the last quarter of 2020, the Supreme Council for Media Regulation, headed by Karam Jaber, issued many decisions regulations as follows; 3 decisions to suspend from work, 2 decisions to suspend broadcasting a program, 2 decisions to prevent from appearing, 2 decisions to impose a fine and publishing 2 apologizes. The most prominent of these decisions was suspending broadcasting "Zamalkawí" program via Al-Zamalek Channel for 2 weeks as well as it was decided to suspend the interviewer "Ahmed Gamaí" for three months and prevented him from being appeared in another mass media outlet. The Supreme Council for Media Regulation addressed the Council of Ministers to approve extending the period of receiving requests for regulating the entities, institutions, press and media outlets and online websites' conditions for three months. Furthermore, the Council examined the complaint submitted by Telecom Egypt against 90 Minutes program which is broadcasting on Al-Mehwar Channel and its interviewer Osama Kamal, and decided to approve the recommendation of the Complaints Committee regarding the violations broadcasted on the program, episode of November 28, 2020, suspend the presenter for 2 weeks and fine the channel 100,000 Pounds.

In the same context, The National Press Authority, headed by the engineer Abdel-Sadek Elshorbagy, issued several decisions, the most important were; Announcing the formations of Boards of Directors in the National Press Institutions, addressing all national institutions to issue instructions of reducing the employment inside the press institution to mitigate the overcrowded at work places, work activation (Online), give the priority to chronic diseases awareness and other cases that require that, in case it doesn't affect the work function, in the frame of reducing the impact of the 2nd wave of COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Syndicate of Journalists headed by Professor Daaa Rashwan has also issued a number of decisions, controls and statements, the most important of them were: Announcement of opening the reservation for "Egypt Paradise" housing units in New Cairo in the universities area, starting from Sunday, October 18, 2020, for 288 housing units, and the price per square meter reached 10090 pounds, in addition to the distinction percentage. The announcement of counting the votes results in the midterm elections for the chairperson of the subsidiary syndicate and 3 seats for the members of the Council. The number of those who voted reached 140 journalists of the total number of the General Assembly of 181 votes. Finally, the registration committee for a schedule under training was held at the Journalists' Syndicate headed by Khaled Miri, and the committee opened the door for the postponed from a committee under training from September 27 to October 11, 2020 to complete the papers, which included a letter from the employer and a statement of insurance, in preparation for the committee's meeting.

The Media Syndicate, headed by Dr. Tariq Saada, issued a number of decisions, regulations and statements, the most important of them were: Preventing Osama Kamal, the presenter of 90-minute program, from appearing on any media outlet and preventing him from engaging in any media activity until his status is legalized, according to the provisions of Articles (2 and 19) of the Syndicate Law. Also Reham Saeed, a program presenter for Al-Nahar TV, was prevented from appearing on any media outlet, until the end of the investigation with her for violating the media code of conduct and the code of professional conduct.

Finally, the third section of this report dealt with the most prominent events affecting the press and media work environment during the 4th quarter of 2020, and in this context, the

decision of the Supreme Council for Media Regulation regarding the amendment of some provisions of the licensing list was highlighted, as well as the decision of the National Authority. For the press concerned with announcing the boards of directors' formations of the national institutions, then the report moved to the procedures the elections of the Journalists' Syndicate branch in Alexandria, which ended on October 28, 2020 in complete calm. It left a number of questions about the fate of the midterm elections for the board of directors of the General Syndicate in Cairo. This section also includes a conversation about the violation of "banning the coverage", as it is the most prominent violation that occurred against journalists and media professionals during the coverage of the House of Representatives elections 2020. This section also clarified the journalists' uprising crisis in charge of covering the news of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities as well as the effects on the inappropriate dealings with them by the Minister While covering an event in an event in Saqqara area.



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