



Overseas Press Club
of America

Bulletin Feb. 28, 2024

Greetings!

We hope you enjoy this edition of the Bulletin. This month, read the [OPC announcement](#) about the keynote speaker and President's Award for the OPC Awards Dinner on April 25, a look at upcoming events including a Book Night with two authors who write about Russia [on Feb. 29](#), a Book Night [on March 13](#) to discuss *Newshawks in Berlin*, and the OPC Foundation's evening reception to honor this year's scholars [on March 5](#). We have a remembrance of longtime OPC member Robert Black, a newly posted video recording of an [OPC Book Night at Columbia University](#) with Yaroslav Trofimov discussing *Our Enemies Will Vanish*, and we welcome many new OPC members including students from the Simon and June Li Center for Global Journalism at Columbia University. You can also read updates on OPC community members in the People column, programs and opportunities for journalists.



**Nobel Peace Prize Winner Maria Ressa
Will Be Keynote Speaker at OPC's 2024
Awards Dinner; President's Award Goes to
David Remnick of The New Yorker**

Keynote Speaker
Maria Ressa
Co-founder and CEO, Rappler
Winner, 2021 Nobel Peace Prize

President's Award Winner
David Remnick
Editor, *The New Yorker*
Winner, 1994 Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction

Cocktail Reception
sponsored by
Bloomberg

Post-Dinner Reception
sponsored by
REUTERS

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**Honoring the Best
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Journalism**

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CIPRIANI
25 Broadway, New York

BLACK TIE

**85th ANNUAL
AWARDS DINNER**
April 25, 2024

Maria Ressa, co-founder and CEO of Rappler, and winner of the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize, will be the keynote speaker at the OPC's 85th Annual Awards Dinner on April 25 at Cipriani 25 Broadway.

David Remnick, editor of *The New Yorker* and winner of the 1994 Pulitzer Prize for Nonfiction for his book *Lenin's Tomb: The Last Days of the Soviet Empire*, will receive the President's Award for lifetime achievement.

Rappler is a digital-only news site that is leading the fight for press freedom in the Philippines. As Rappler's CEO, Maria has endured constant political harassment and arrests by the Duterte government and has been forced to post bail ten times to stay free. In October 2021, Maria was one of two journalists awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in recognition of her "efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace."

"Maria's courage in standing up for the principle of free expression, at great personal risk, has been an inspiration to all of us in international journalism. That freedom is under growing threat across the globe today, and Maria, by her example, has shown us the importance of fighting back against those threats wherever they occur," said Scott Kraft, OPC President.

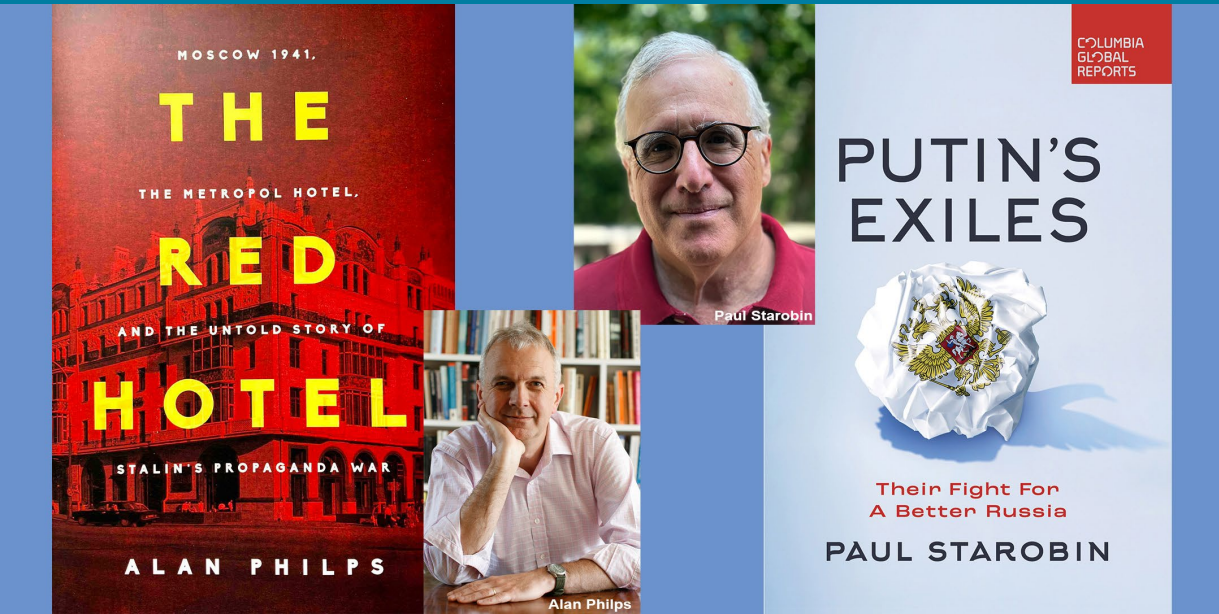
Remnick is one of the top editors in American journalism. Under his leadership *The New Yorker* has won more than fifty National Magazine Awards, including multiple citations for general excellence. In 2016, *The New Yorker* became the first magazine to receive a Pulitzer Prize for its writing, and now has won six Pulitzers, including the gold medal for public service. It has won five OPC awards and numerous citations. Remnick was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters in 2016.

"David is, quite simply, one of the finest journalists of his generation. As editor of *The New Yorker*, and for three decades one of its most gifted writers, he has compellingly chronicled some of our era's biggest global stories. In just the past year, his work on the Middle East conflict, and the work of the magazine writers he oversees, has been must-read journalism. We're proud to honor him as this year's President's Award winner," Kraft said.

Individual tickets for the awards dinner [can be purchased here](#). Companies interested in buying a table can contact OPC Executive Director Patricia Kranz at patricia@opcofamerica.org.

Read on the OPC Website

UPCOMING EVENTS



Feb. 29: Book Night - ‘The Red Hotel’ and ‘Putin’s Exiles’

Time: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: Online via Zoom

The OPC is bringing together two authors whose new books detail Russia’s repressive tactics in two different eras – and how some Russians rebel against them.

Alan Philps, a former Moscow correspondent for Reuters and the Daily Telegraph, wrote *The Red Hotel: Moscow 1941, the Metropole Hotel, and the Untold Story of Stalin’s Propaganda War*. **Paul Starobin**, former Moscow bureau chief of Businessweek and a frequent reporter on Russia, is the author of *Putin’s Exiles: Their Fight for a Better Russia*.

The Red Hotel is available for [purchase here](#).

Putin’s Exiles is available for [purchase here](#).

The Red Hotel explores the gilded cage of the Metropol Hotel from 1941 to

1945, where English and American journalists in Moscow covered the Eastern Front of WWII. To turn these reporters into Kremlin mouthpieces, Philips details how Stalin imposed the most draconian controls – unbending censorship, no visits to the battlefield, and a ban on contact with ordinary citizens. But they enjoyed lavish supplies of caviar and had their choice of young women to employ as translators and share their beds. While some of the translators turned Western journalists into robotic conveyors of Kremlin propaganda, others were secret dissidents who whispered to reporters the reality of Soviet life and were punished with sentences in the Gulag.

The struggle to cover Russia accurately continues to this day. Putin has cracked down on anyone opposing the invasion of Ukraine in person, on social media, or in the press. The Wall Street Journal's Evan Gershkovitch is in prison in Siberia. And since Putin invaded Ukraine, some one million Russians have fled the country and gone into exile. Motivated by opposition to the war, by guilt for their country's deeds, by personal hatred for Putin, and by a vision of a better Russia, Starobin describes how the exiles have mounted an organized resistance to Putin's rule. Many of them are young, tech-savvy Russians in revolt against their parents' generation, which kept Putin in power. Others are journalists, dissidents, and Orthodox priests. Others are actively providing military assistance to Ukraine, from a distance.

Moderating the discussion are: **Beth Knobel**, associate professor in the Department of Communication and Media Studies at Fordham University, a former Moscow Bureau Chief for CBS News and a governor of the OPC; and **Patricia Kranz**, executive director of the OPC and a former Moscow bureau chief for Businessweek.

RSVP Now

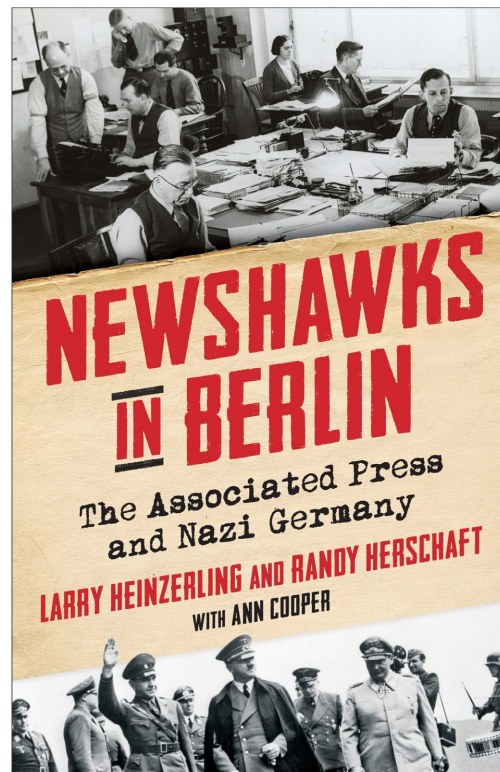


March 13: Book Night - 'Newshawks in Berlin – The Associated Press and Nazi Germany'

Time: 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: Online via Zoom

Newshawks in Berlin, by Larry Heinzerling and Randy Herschaft, with Ann Cooper, reveals how The Associated Press covered Nazi Germany from its earliest days through the aftermath of World War II. Heinzerling and Herschaft accessed previously classified government documents; plumbed diary entries, letters, and memos; and reviewed thousands of published stories



and photos to examine what the AP reported and what it left out. Their research uncovers fierce internal debates about how to report in a dictatorship, and it reveals decisions by AP that sometimes prioritized business ambitions over journalistic ethics. The book also documents the AP's coverage of the Holocaust and its unveiling.

Newshawks In Berlin is available for [purchase here](#).

Use the promo code **CUP20** during checkout to receive a 20 percent discount.

Larry Heinzerling (1945–2021) was a reporter, foreign correspondent, and news executive during a forty-one-year career at The Associated Press. He worked in foreign bureaus in Nigeria, South Africa, and Germany and served as director of AP World Services and deputy international editor.

Randy Herschaft has been an investigative journalist at the AP for three decades. The recipient of a George Polk and an Overseas Press Club Award in 2000 for “The Bridge at No Gun RI”, which uncovered, nearly 50 years later, a massacre of civilians by U.S. troops during the Korean War. Randy was part of the team that won a Pulitzer Prize in 2000 for their work on the story.

Ann Cooper, Heinzerling’s wife, worked with Herschaft to complete the book following Heinzerling’s death in 2021. She is professor emerita at the Columbia Journalism School, a former executive director of the Committee to Protect Journalists, and former NPR bureau chief in Moscow and Johannesburg.

From the foreword to the book: *Newshawks* “describes the journalists and their work through a real-time prism....Issues they faced – how to report in a dictatorship, whether to embed with military forces, how to report on accounts of atrocities that cannot be independently verified – these all remain dilemmas for today’s journalists covering war in Ukraine, protests in Iran, dictatorship in Myanmar, or human rights violations in every region of the world.

Moderating the discussion is **Andrew Nagorski**, a journalist and author who spent more than three decades as a foreign correspondent and editor for Newsweek, serving as bureau chief in Hong Kong, Moscow, Rome, Bonn, Warsaw, and Berlin.

RSVP Now



March 5: 33rd Annual OPC Foundation Scholar Awards Ceremony



Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time

Place: Ford Foundation Center for Social Justice, 320 East 43 St, New York

The Overseas Press Club Foundation will host an Evening Reception at the Ford Foundation Center for Social Justice to celebrate the 2024 Scholar Award Winners.

Register by March 2. All guests must pre-register and bring a photo ID. The Ford Foundation no longer accepts walk-ins.

Read the list of this year's [18 Scholar Award Winners here](#).

RSVP Now



People Remembered: Robert Black

Robert Black, a longtime OPC member with a distinguished career in journalism and public relations, [died on Feb. 4](#) from complications

related to Covid. He was 94 years old.

Black recently [contributed](#) to an OPC piece celebrating colleagues whose club membership had spanned more than 50 years. In a message sent last October, he recounted joining the OPC in 1955 at the behest of Bob Considine, who was president at the time, after covering an OPC luncheon at the club's headquarters on 39th Street while he was still a student at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism. He said Considine sponsored his membership after learning Black had worked for Stars & Stripes in Tokyo during the Korean War.



In 2021, he [wrote a remembrance](#) about his career and history with the OPC for the Bulletin. He said he had “worked for some pretty good magazines, did a lot of free-lancing, held a lot of public relations jobs and in 1995 became an adjunct professor of journalism at his undergrad school, Florida Southern College (1951).” His work included sports coverage for The Associated Press, consulting editor for Popular Science, boating and travel magazines, and freelance writing for The New York Times, the New York Herald Tribune, the St. Petersburg Times, the Tampa Bay Times and the Norwalk Hour. He worked in public relations as a director for the National Council on the Aging, Swissair North America and assistant director for Time Inc., and in 1964 he joined H. A. Bruno as an account executive and rose to the rank of executive vice president.

He ran his own public relations agency, Bob Black and Company Inc., from 1974 to 2015.

“Back in the days when I was drinking, the bar of the OPC was a wondrous place of top journos and some captains of journalistic organizations,” he wrote. “Great stories every day at lunch. Brilliant and smart men and women. It was a joy (and a learning experience) to be part of it.”

His partner, Marcia Doscher, said in an email that she “was truly blessed being with Bob, as his significant life partner.” She said that until his recent illness, he was involved in writing public relations news for various social service agencies in the community surrounding Sun City Center, Florida.

[Read on the OPC Website](#)

**VIDEO: Author Yaroslav Trofimov
Discusses Coverage of War in Ukraine**

On Jan. 24, author Yaroslav Trofimov, the chief foreign-affairs correspondent for The Wall Street Journal, spoke at Columbia University's Simon and June Li Center for Global Journalism, an event co-sponsored by the OPC. A video recording of the discussion with Azmat Khan, an OPC vice president who heads the center, has recently been posted on YouTube. Watch the video via the window below, or read a recap of the event on the OPC website by clicking the blue "Read More" button.



[Read More](#)

Gong Xi Fa Cai

Left to right: Past OPC Executive Director Sonya Fry, OPC Governor Albert Goldson and OPC member Rebecca Fannin attend the a celebration of the Lunar New Year and Year of the Dragon at the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York.



Welcome New Members

Deborah Camiel
Director, Media &
Entertainment
Institute
Anti-Defamation
League
Los Angeles, CA
Associate Non-Resident



Emily Russell
Stanford University
Palo Alto, CA
Student



Dafna Linzer
EVP and Editorial Director
U.S. News and World Report
New York
Active Resident

Haley Willis
Video Journalist,
Visual Investigations
The New York Times
Brooklyn, NY
Active Resident,
Young (29 and under)



Nicholas Muller
Freelance
Berlin, Germany
Active Overseas



Wufei Yu
Reporter
Sanlian Lifeweek
Magazine
Beijing, China
Active Overseas,
Young (29 and under)



The OPC is grateful to OPC Vice President Azmat Khan, director of the Simon and June Li Center for Global Journalism at Columbia University, for subsidizing OPC memberships and large OPC press IDs for the following 20 journalism students.



Natasha Bracken
Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Carli Kooijman
Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Ella Chakarian
Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Ariane Luthi
Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Adlai Coleman

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Oishika Neogi

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Elena Gastaldo

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Maurice A. Oniango

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Elza Goffaux

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



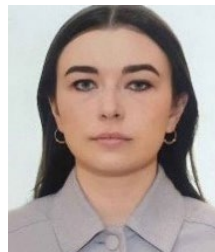
Brendan Rose

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Iryna Humenyuk

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Hoda Sherif

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Lachlan Hyatt

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Nandhini Srinivasan

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Mukta Joshi

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Bence Szechenyi

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Samaa Khullar

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student

Jude Taha

Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Yeonseung Kim
Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



Lauren Watson
Columbia University
School of Journalism
New York
Student



People by Chad Bouchard

SCHOLARS

Jesse Coburn of Streetsblog NYC, who was the winner of the Harper’s Magazine Scholarship in Memory of I.F. Stone in 2016, [won the 2023 George Polk Award in Local Reporting](#) for the “Ghost Tags: Inside New York City’s Black Market for Temporary License Plates,” the product of a seven-month investigation that uncovered an extensive underground economy in fraudulent paper license plates that motorists used to evade detection while driving on suspended licenses, dodging tolls and tickets and committing other more serious crimes. The awards will be presented at a gala luncheon on April 12.



AWARDS

Rest of the World, a nonprofit publication covering global technology where OPC Governor **Anup Kaple** serves as editor-in-chief, received two nominations in this year's National Magazine Awards. The American Society of Magazine Editors (ASME) [announced](#) on Feb. 15 that the publication was nominated in the categories of Design and General Excellence, Literature and Politics. The organization will announce winners April 2 at Terminal 5 in New York City.



Jane Ferguson, an author, PBS NewsHour correspondent and OPC Award winner who spoke about her work at an OPC book night last October, was awarded the inaugural Neal Conan Prize for Excellence in Journalism. The [award](#) is named for Conan, an American radio journalist who spent nearly four decades in multiple roles including host of Talk of the Nation. The award includes a \$50,000 prize. In a [tweet](#)



about the award, Ferguson said his “legacy is incredible - for public broadcasters, foreign correspondents, storytellers who care deeply about the world.” Ferguson spoke with award-winning veteran reporter Elizabeth Becker at an OPC book night on Oct. 19 to discuss *No Ordinary Assignment*. A recap and recording of the [program is available here](#).

UPDATES

OPC Governor **Daniella Zalcman** will have her photographs on display as part of the Xposure International Photography Festival in Sharjah, United Arab Emirates [from Feb. 28 to March 5](#). The festival includes presentations from 150 visual storytellers from around the world. The work Zalcman will have on display is titled “[Signs of Your Identity: Forced Assimilation Education for Indigenous Youth](#),” a project she started in 2014 after she traveled to Canada for a story about HIV rates in First Nations communities. Zalcman also spoke on a panel for The Institute for Women's Leadership (IWL) [on Feb. 7](#) on the role that different forms of media play in the fight for human rights and issues that women journalists face in their work. She is the founder of Women Photograph, a non-profit that works to elevate the voices of women and nonbinary visual journalists.



OPC member **David Hume Kennerly** will also have his work featured at the Xposure festival. He is slated to deliver two talks at the festival. The first, “[Behind the Scenes of History](#)” will take place on Feb. 28 and the other, “[Behind Closed Doors in the Oval Office](#)” with President Barack Obama’s official photographer on March 5. Kennerly [served](#) as President Gerald Ford’s personal photographer during his administration.



The Associated Press announced [on Feb. 5](#) that **Mary Rajkumar**, an OPC Governor, will co-lead AP’s global investigations team and “work across the organization to develop and produce in-depth investigative projects.” Rajkumar will be joined by Jeannie Ohm, who has guided visual storytelling and analysis for the global investigations team since 2020. She has been with the AP since 2013. Rajkumar, who joined the AP in 2007, has been working as editor for the global investigations team and led the team that produced “Seafood from Slaves”, an investigation into forced labor that won two 2015 OPC awards and a 2016 Pulitzer Gold Medal. Stories she edited have won a total of eight OPC awards.



Ahmed Baider, a past OPC Award winner with VICE News, has been reporting for international media outlets covering the Red Sea crisis in Yemen. His work with production teams on the ground has included video reports for TRT World on the effects of [conflict on civilians](#), [Yemeni history](#), [humanitarian aid](#), and an ITV News report on [cargo shipping disruption](#) around Yemen, among others. He wrote in an email update that “more work, interviews, and multimedia features will be



published in the coming weeks.” Baider was part of the VICE News Tonight team that won the 2021 [Edward R. Murrow Award](#) for reporting in Yemen, along with **Isobel Yeung**, **Amel Guettatfi** and **Javier Manzano**.

OPC member **Dexter Roberts**, the director of China affairs at the Mansfield Center at the University of Montana, [spoke to NPR](#) as part of a piece about the Evergrande Group, a large Chinese real estate developer, which a Hong Kong court ordered to be liquidated after failing to restructure the \$300 billion it owed investors. Speaking to reporter Scott Neuman, he called the company’s fall a “controlled implosion,” adding that “China has known for a long time that their economy was imbalanced and too reliant on debt, with the real estate sector the most indebted industry of all and Evergrande the poster child for the most indebted company in that sector.” Roberts also [spoke to the BBC](#) for a piece about the Evergrande collapse. He is author of *The Myth of Chinese Capitalism: The Worker, the Factory, and the Future of the World*.



People Column

New Resources

TRAINING AND PROGRAMS

The **Rory Peck Trust** has two upcoming workshops at the Frontline Club in London, including a program for Digital and Physical Safety for Women Journalists on March 7, and a program for Physical and Psychological First Aid for Freelancers on March 20. [Read more and register here.](#)

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The **Council on Foreign Relations (CFR)** is seeking applicants for its 2024-2025 Edward R. Murrow press fellowship through March 1. The fellowship offers a distinguished foreign correspondent or editor the opportunity to spend ten months in CFR’s New York office researching and writing on a critical foreign policy topic. Qualified applicants must be U.S. citizens and possess a strong record of professional achievement. The fellowship begins in September 2024 and runs for ten months. The stipend is \$100,000 and includes a modest travel budget. Fellows are independent contractors rather than CFR employees, and they are not eligible for employment benefits, including health insurance. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **International Women’s Media Foundation (IWMF)** is seeking nominations for its 2024 Courage in Journalism Awards. The awards include the Wallis Annenberg Justice for Women Journalists Award intended for women and nonbinary journalists who are detained, jailed or imprisoned. The deadline to submit nominations is March 3. [Read more and submit nominations here.](#)

The **International Center for Journalists (ICFJ)** is calling for applications for its **Arthur F. Burns Fellowship**, which provides young and experienced journalists with the opportunity to participate in an exchange program and work for prestigious media outlets in both Germany and the United States. The deadline to apply is March 1. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The Pulitzer Center is offering reporting grants through its Peace and Conflict reporting initiative, and actively seeking to support coverage on underreported angles of the Israel-Hamas war. Grants are given on a rolling basis. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The Carter Center is accepting applications for the 2024-2025 Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism. Applicants should demonstrate a strong interest in mental health reporting during the fellowship year. Previous mental health reporting experience is not required. Applications are due by April 12. [Read more and apply here.](#)

Free Press Unlimited is calling for applications for a Collaborative Journalism Fellowship. The fellowship from April to August will immerse 20 early and mid-career journalists into the world of collaborative journalism and equip participants with essential skills needed to develop and run a collaborative cross-border investigation. The deadline to apply is March 4. [Read more and apply here.](#)

The **National Endowment for Democracy (NED)** is asking for help for Azda TV, one of the few remaining sources of independent information on Tajikistan, whose their work is under threat. NED said that threats to Azda's staff and families have increased over the past year to the point where the journalists are worried about the future of their work. "Recording these threats and reaffirming the importance of independent journalism would provide public support for the journalists at Azda as they continue their work." NED has asked for partners interested in creating international pressure in support of Tajik journalists and help improving safety measures. Contact Jessie Wyatt (jessiew@ned.org) and Corby Johnson (corbyj@ned.org) to get involved.

More Resources

Click the button below to go directly to the OPC's Resources page, or find it in your Member Dashboard under "Resources."

If you have any issues accessing the resources page, please contact Chad Bouchard at chad@opcofamerica.org for credentials.

OPC Resources



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