

# Support our free-speech projects!

VIKES

THE FINNISH FOUNDATION  
FOR MEDIA, COMMUNICATION  
AND DEVELOPMENT

**In 2011 VIKES carries out and supports communication development projects in 15 countries. Its annual budget is about €700,000.**

The condition for foreign ministry funding is that VIKES provides 15% of project budgets itself. The foreign ministry provides the other 85%. This means that VIKES needs to collect nearly €100,000 a year for its projects.



The largest single source of this is the Union of Journalists in Finland's solidarity fund. Support is also gathered in various other ways.

**A percentage of your salary:** you can donate a small sum from your salary each month to support VIKES' projects, by making a standing order with your bank online for a donation to VIKES fundraising account: SAMPO FI2780001471350307. Ask your colleagues and friends to join you!



**Henrik Tikkanen's graphic art:** help us sell copies of Henrik Tikkanen's prints to media companies and organizations for the special price of €2000 each.

**Drum up support for VIKES:** VIKES board members and those dealing with project work gladly attend various events to talk about VIKES and its projects. Ask for donations at such events – and why not see if your association/organization is prepared to budget funding support for VIKES annually.

## VIKES' Council

VIKES' activities are overseen and assisted by delegates from supporting media and journalists' organizations and associations, who comprise the Council of the foundation, which holds statutory annual general meetings each spring. The chairperson of the Council for 2010-2011 is **Elna Grundström**, and the vice-chair is **Hannu Aaltonen**.

VIKES board deals with the foundation's business, and the executive director handles its day-to-day matters.

## Board 2010-2011

Chair: **Juha Rekola** (Union of Journalists in Finland)  
Vice-chair: **Leena Mallat** (SAL - Magazine Journalists)

<b>Tuuke Alitalo</b> (SAL)	<b>Mathias Luther</b> (TSY)
<b>Jouko Huru</b> (PJY)	<b>Ari Heinonen</b> (PJY)
<b>Anja Itkonen</b> (PKSY)	<b>Heidi Hammasten</b> (APY)
<b>Peik Johansson</b> (HSY)	<b>Janne Sivonen</b> (IPS)
<b>Airi Leppänen</b> (RTTL)	<b>Sari Taussi</b> (RTTL)
<b>Leena Mallat</b> (SAL)	<b>Marjut Helminen</b> (MaSivu)

## Executive director

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## Office

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## Supporting organizations

Adulta - Radio and TV Institute ARTO  
Finnish Association of Magazine Editors-in-Chief  
Journalists' Association of Southern Finland  
Journalists' Association of Helsinki  
Journalists of Häme-Uusimaa  
Journalists of Central Botnia  
Journalists' Association of Eastern Finland  
Journalists of Central Finland  
Journalists Maailman Sivu  
MTV programme makers  
Nelonen TV programme makers  
Pirkanmaa Journalists  
Journalists Association of North Karelia  
Radio and Television Journalists Union  
Satakunta Journalists  
Finnish Union of Magazine Journalists  
Finnish Inter Press Service  
Union of Journalists in Finland  
Finnish One World Portal Association  
Finnish Association for Mass Communication Research  
Journalists Association of Turku  
Vostok ry. (University of Tampere Mass Communications students organization)  
Media - Association of Students of Mass Communications  
United Media Workers (YMT)  
YLE programme makers  
Diaconia University of Applied Sciences  
Finnish Environmental Journalists

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# Media and development 2011



There's no democracy unless people can access information and express their opinions. Transparency and openness are the basics of good governance. Freedom of speech, an independent media and people's rights to communications are key features of development.

Independent and professional mass media have crucial roles to play in economic and democratic development.

Since 2005 the Finnish Foundation for Media, Communication and Development (VIKES) has run

projects promoting freedom of speech and media pluralism as key elements of the development of society and democracy.

The entire Finnish journalistic profession is included in VIKES' activities.

VIKES brings onboard Finnish expertise in communications and development, and networks extensively internationally. Through its own contacts and those of its working partners, it seeks to create strategic partnerships that achieve sound results even with small-scale funding.

**Tukitili SAMPO FI27 800014 71350307**

Keräyslupa ESLH-2009-07939/Tu-52



# Projects in 2011



## Asia

**Training young documentary filmmakers at the independent Yangon film school in Burma/Myanmar:** Part of this training consists in making short documentaries, some of which will be shown at international film festivals. The project aims to strengthen civil society and create a cohort of trained documentary film-makers, as the country lacks professional training in this field.



**Strengthening journalists' trade unions in Central Asia:** The project promotes self-organization among journalists and freedom of speech in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tadjikistan, where there is a strong need to bolster the development of independent media and journalism. VIKES is investigating ways of expanding the project to Uzbekistan.



**IFEX in Central Asia:** a project to develop the International Freedom of Expression Exchange network in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tadjikistan and Uzbekistan, which seeks to encourage public debate on the key issues of freedom of speech and expression.



**Investigative journalism in Nepal:** the two-year project uses courses and work assignments and will provide 50 Nepalese journalists with the basics of investigative journalism, thereby aiming to promote the country's democratization, peace-building and good governance. Articles produced will be published in the Nepalese media and the best ones compiled into a book.

## Africa

**Self-regulation of the Namibian media:** the credibility of a free media in the eyes of the public is crucial in Namibia as elsewhere. The project has assisted in setting up the Editors Forum, with the adoption of guidelines on journalistic ethics and in establishment of the office of the Media Ombudsman.

**Internet training for journalists in Tanzania:** promoting press freedom, journalistic ethics and media pluralism and independence through internet courses, which will be arranged together with MISA-Tanzania for journalists already working in the field.

**Mtwara and Lindi community media project:** promoting civic journalism and building participatory community media in Tanzania by arranging media courses and seminars and by improving technical resources. The project supports participatory community video productions, community radio and community theatre.

**Courses for Nigerian environmental journalists:** together with Environmental Rights Action and Finnish Environmental Journalists, VIKES will organize training in environmental journalism and issues of freedom of speech for Nigerian journalists. The project promotes the organization and networking of Nigerian environmental journalists.

## Latin America

**The Costa network of freelance journalists:** the project, which is being run in the Caribbean coastal region, will help improve collaboration between journalists and NGO's and networking among journalists and with the mass media. The project will design training and provide support for joint productions together with networks of local journalists.

## Middle East

**Media education for Palestinians:** the Turku department of the Diaconia University of Applied Sciences and the University of Bethlehem are helping with this project to improve the media communication skills of Palestinians. The project is an opportunity for young Finnish students of mass communications to learn about the critical issues of the Middle East crisis.

## Caucasus

**Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan:** the project provides training and facilitates networking among journalists and civic journalists in these crisis areas, to produce accurate information that does not support the propagation of enemy images.

## Russia

VIKES continues to support **professional and language training for minority language journalists** in Karelia, held in Petrozavodsk and Finland.

# Kulmakivi

*Kulmakivi (Finnish for 'cornerstone') is an international, community study programme for students of journalism on democracy and freedom of speech.*

Is journalism an asset in promoting democracy, advancing human rights and good governance?

The study programme is made up of two core parts: making use of social networking website tools and the online study course for universities and colleges titled Journalism for Social Change, of which a main part is Kulmakivi's website.



Kulmakivi is a wholly new training project that locates ways of studying together in the global international student community. The project is designed for colleges and universities but it's also possible to join in it in other ways. In addition to studies and study credits, Kulmakivi aims to provide an open forum for interaction, communality and attainment. Students from different societies and communities are able to study together, work on journalistic articles, interviews, and reports, to interact online to open up a different kind of journalism and to share their perspectives on social change.

VIKES and Finnish InterPress Service's partners in this project are the Diaconia University of Applied Sciences in Turku, the Ghana's Institute of Journalism in Accra, the Department of Mass Communications at the University of Helsinki and the journalism course at the University of Dar-es-Salaam.

More information:

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# www.vikes.fi

