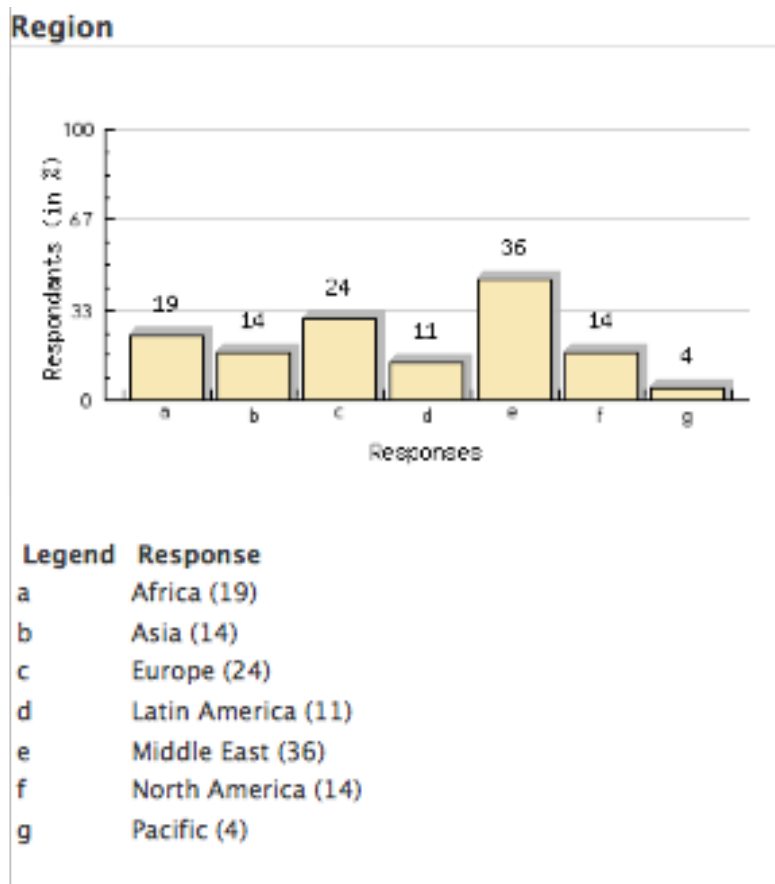
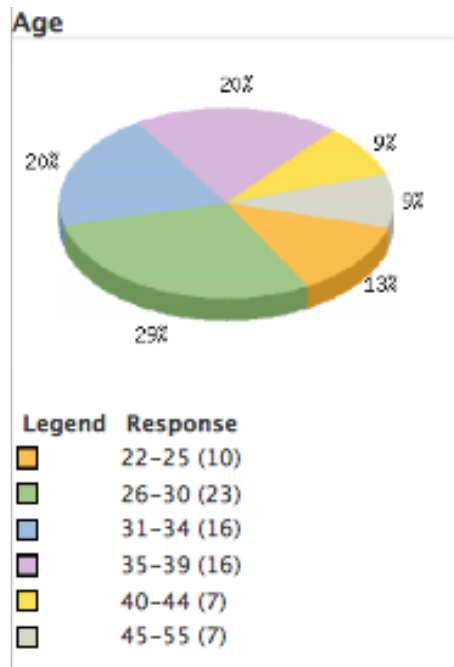
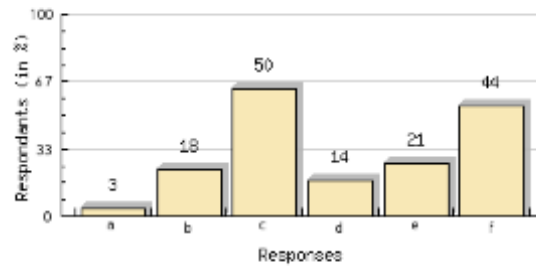


Frontline Freelance Register Introductory Survey

80 Responses in total



Discipline



Legend Response

- a Broadcast (3)
- b New Media (18)
- c Photojournalism (50)
- d Radio / Sound (14)
- e Videojournalism (21)
- f Writing (44)

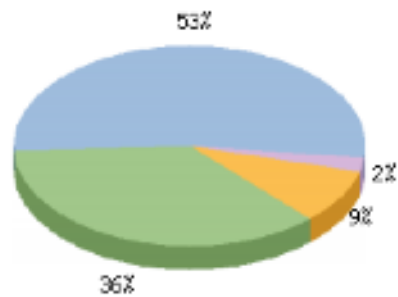
Do you have Hostile Environment Training (HET)



Legend Response

- Booked on a course (5)
- No (53)
- Yes (20)
- No answer (2)

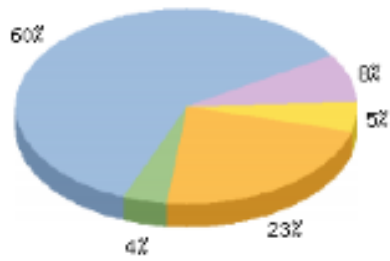
Do you have First Aid Training



Legend Response

- Booked on a course (7)
- No (29)
- Yes (42)
- No answer (2)

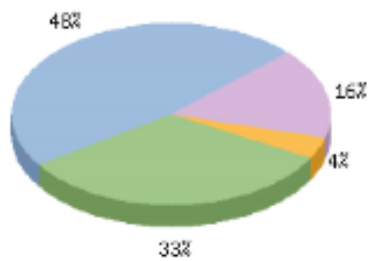
Who should be on the register?



Legend Response

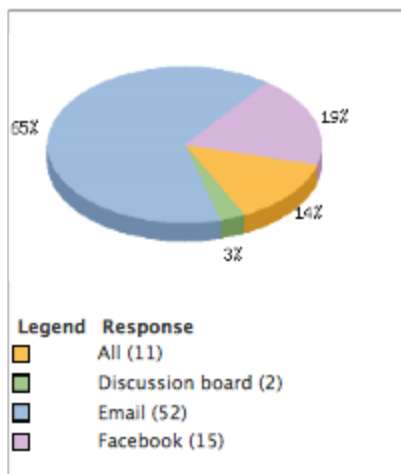
- International freelancers and journalists who place themselves at physical risk for their work (18)
- International freelancers who need or have a news safety or first aid course (3)
- Only active and competent conflict and foreign affairs freelance journalists (current criteria for entry) (48)
- Only active and competent conflict freelance journalists (6)
- No answer (5)

Would you be prepared to pay a membership fee in the future?



Legend Response

- I would not be prepared to pay for membership now or in the future regardless of the benefits. (3)
- I would potentially be happy to pay a moderate annual fee of \$50-100. (26)
- I would potentially be happy to pay a nominal annual fee of \$10-30. (38)
- I would potentially be happy to pay a robust annual fee if there were tangible and significant benefits. (13)



Legend Response

- All (11)
- Discussion board (2)
- Email (52)
- Facebook (15)

	FFR Priorities (where 1 was most important, and 11 the least - lowest total number = most important)
305	Work to establish less expensive insurance.
306	Deliver free first aid training to extend RISC's work collaboratively.
327	Secure discounted or free safety (HET) courses.
344	Campaign to improve freelance remuneration.
368	Create a community and shared information space for freelancers.
383	Deliver cost or discounted medpacks, flak jackets and other safety equipment.
387	Promote a better understanding of freelance work to the news industry and beyond.
387	Encourage the news industry to adopt common training standards to make our safety qualifications portable.
404	Campaign for better crediting for freelance journalists.
414	Work with industry to set policies and guidelines for dealing with freelancers.
422	Provide tools and training for freelancers to use in their work e.g. digital security tools, mobile phone training, security information and support, pitching and commissioning.

Comments

<p>Thank you for putting so much effort into the project. The FFR really feels like a strong community.</p>
<p>Juste wanted to say it's a great initiative, even for people who are covering potentially risky zones and not necessarily conflicts. One cannot be too prepared, one cannot have too many information and contacts, one cannot be too aware of the risks and how to deliver good and meaningful work despite them. So keep up the good work!</p>
<p>not because a country is not in "real" war, or the journalist dont go to other wars doesnt mean that in their home countries the journalists dont need to take security protocols, training etc.... more if places like latin america where cartels and drug gangs urge the need to train journalists to work in this kind of hostile environment, please dont make an exclusive group for journalists who cover frontlines of war... there are other not visually specific wars, this can be also a network for journalists who need and find local journalist for collaboration projects or contacts</p>
<p>There should be certain standards for freelancers in order to enter war zones and get</p>

support for their work. Courses of first aid, hostile environment and awareness of the job and consequences they are doing. Also minimum cultural knowledge of place they are going to. A lack of knowledge influenced the media coverage especially in Syria very much.

Not particularly keen to see the FFR - especially the Facebook page - become a forum for self-promotion. The links posted by FFR administrators are mostly interesting and relevant but some of the stuff (photos, video dispatches, links etc) is just hacks showing what they've done and there are other places for them to do that.

1. I found the options given on "REGISTER" section conflicting: Ideally, it should be open for all freelance journalists (4th option) who put themselves at risk in line of work. But this option also includes journalists. That should not be the case. FFR should be a 'for freelancers only ' forum. The reason is simple: its the freelancers who have none but themselves.

2. Wellness and dealing with Trauma training - that's missing in your list of goals/priorities. Please remember, HET is not the only thing we need; most freelancers who cover conflict consistently also need training in how to deal with trauma/psychological wellness training. Please add that. (**I have had that training - reason why, even without HET, I am still able to work on)

An annual meeting would be a great idea.

Apart from the safety aspect of freelancing in conflict areas I hope we can use our communal strength to make the media understand that our work is worth more money than that of local journalists, since we run high risks and have lots more expenses. A discussion amongst the members about ways to reach this goal would be appreciated. That for me is a priority.

To better reach our collective goals we should be exclusive, and not take on mainstream journalists. To understand who should be in the FFR we should think of who can help us best to reach our common goals. Those are the people that the FFR needs as members...

get news organisations to pay promptly

thanks for this. great initiative

I think that you're doing a good job. It's better to improve the organisation step by step and do it in the right way than try to reach too many things.

Thanks for the hard work you have put into the register. I feel that it will get more and more important in the current media environment to train and support freelancers better to keep them save.

Great work, it is really worth the effort and if you need help at some point let me know...
Peace
Pierre

Thanks! Very excited about the creation of a freelance community. Creating a database of editors to approach for pitching, with rates, would be helpful.

Would be very useful to have a service/network that links experienced/qualified freelancers in the same location. For example, I arrive in Cairo to shoot the revolution, and I'd like to find people to move around with. Would be very valuable- people could put up phone numbers/contact details when they arrive in a place.

about the fee, I would be happy to pay more than 100usd if there are tangible and significant benefits but a robust annual fee perhaps is quite a lot for the majority of us.

about 'Who should be on the register?' I like the current one as there is a huge need to set up standards for freelancers, whether you work in London or in Syria. (my case). I think we need (strong need) to set up a minimal dayrates and rates for freelancers to avoid media corporations to don't undervalue our work. Basically let them know that if they want quality, they need to pay a standard rate in order to deliver that.

Cheers

Struggling with the media industry is already lost to me. Same for bylines, fees... Focus on providing helmets, bullet proof jackets and insurance to people who can't afford deposits and/or daily insurance expenses when not paid by the editor.

This is great!

I'd love there to be more of a community element to it - I'm a member of the "Snapperweb" photojournalist group on Facebook which is predominantly made up of London and US based Photoj's. We all discuss where we are, what jobs are coming up, share rate cards, documents, files, etc. Also just generally chatting about industry stuff day to day. It's proved invaluable.

I think after the slow demise of <http://www.lightstalkers.org> - there is definitely a space and need for a shared information space for freelancers of all kinds. Also for editors and commissioners of assignments to come and use such a resource to contact, book and hire these freelancers for assignments and jobs.

Cheers
D

Keep up the good work!

Just a comment on my listing "Create a community and shared information space for freelancers" as the last item.

The thing is: you already did it by creating the FFR, and there are also some other informal platforms and online groups like the Vulture Club on Facebook, where

freelancers can already discuss about stuff (even if, ok, it's not only for freelancers and now maybe it has grown too much).

You guys are doing a great work so far. Many thanks, well done and keep it up!

Citizen journalism will continue to become a powerful force in our industry. I would be curious to know if it would be possible to offer benefits, protection, advocacy to those citizens who experience issues while expressing themselves in a journalistic manner.

Dangerous physical situations are not always in official conflict zones as we are now witnessing with the whistleblowing reporting. Legal aid should also be made available.

Keep up the great work. Once back in the US, I'd love to find a way to get involved in the admin operations of the organization.

Maybe some sort of rate card for journos, camera operators that edit in the field and photographers. Maybe a poll on Facebook might help give us a better understanding of prices to charge and maybe what the networks should be able to help with.

Legal advice for getting payments from clients, help with establishing price points for our work, and affordable access to other legal resources could be extremely helpful. Helping people do wills would also be useful.

Also perhaps a form that freelancers can filled out, updated, and shared when they go in the field that could be used in case of accidents or kidnapping could be useful.

you could also have a minimal fee to join. (I think fees are important), but then have higher fees for other services, like access to flak jackets, or legal help etc.

Ads and placing articles would be an important way for us to get people to recognize our work and the risks and value, and the reality of the industry now.

You guys are awesome.