

MEDIATIVE JOURNALISM AND ITS ROLE IN RESOLVING ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICTS

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Abstract. The article discusses the basics, principles, functions of mediative journalism, the requirements for a journalist-mediator, the activities of informal mediators in the media, and notes that mediation journalism is the best way to cover and resolve environmental issues.

Keywords: journalist, mediator, information, environmental issues, conflict, function, mediative journalism, principles.

Аннотация. Мақолада медиатив журналистика асослари, тамойиллари, функциялари, журналист-медиаторга қўйиладиган талаблар, оммавий ахборот воситаларида норасмий медиаторлар фаолияти кўриб чиқилиб, медиатив журналистика экологик муаммоларни ёритиш ва ечимини топишда, ахборий жанжалларни бошқаришнинг энг яхши усули эканлиги қайд этилади.

Калит сўзлар: журналист, медиатор, ахборот, экологик муаммолар, низо, функция, медиатив журналистика, тамойиллар.

Аннотация. В статье анализируются основы медиативной журналистики, ее принципы, функции, требования предъявляемые журналисту как медиатору, рассматривается деятельность неформальных медиаторов в средствах массовой информации, а также отмечается, что медиативная журналистика самый лучший способ управления информационными конфликтами, освещение и решение экологических проблем.

Ключевые слова: журналист, медиатор, информация, экологические проблемы, конфликт, функция, медиативная журналистика, принципы.

Mediative journalism requires neutral coverage of conflicting parties. This field of journalism consists of reaching a common agreement between the two sides, listening to different views, establishing a dialogue in the middle, reaching an agreement, listening to each other. This applies to all areas of journalism - radio, television, the Internet, print media. Today, unfortunately, there are no higher education institutions that train mediator journalists, and there are many problems

in this area. Journalism is becoming increasingly dependent, order-based. He is subject to the laws on which society lives. It will be much easier to control and deceive the population if the society does not adhere to universal and national values and democratic principles. Basically, this situation is reflected in the electronic media. When a society is governed by democratic principles, a culture of debate and dialogue is formed. This is where mediative journalism intervention is needed. Coverage of conflicts and contradictions is typical of journalism. But not everyone can help eliminate them. Today, there is a growing controversy over environmental issues and their solutions. For example, recently there have been cases of illegal logging in our country. Many articles about it have been published in the media. In particular, on the website of the Uzbek News Agency uza.uz "200 trees were illegally felled"¹, "Arbitrary felling in Tashkent and Tashkent region"², "Shadowless garden: about 200 trees were felled illegally in Tashkent"³, "Uzbekistan : A Tashkent official refused to call the felling of trees a "crime."⁴ But despite the journalists' alarm bells, the disputes have not yet been resolved. In a sense, the journalist also acts as a mediator in the preparation of the material. When raising an issue, a journalist should listen carefully to both sides. Because the basic principle of mediative journalism is objectivity. Legal or psychological assistance should not be expected from a journalist, even when covering criminal cases or environmental proceedings. The main task of the journalist-mediator is to find ways to reach an agreement and establish a dialogue in the middle. For example, on the television of the Republic of Bashkortostan there is a program called "Red Button". The initiators will try to reconcile the proponents of the conflict by analyzing the disputes on various environmental issues for 20 minutes.

To what extent do the independence or neutrality of journalists affect conflict situations? Of course, and in most cases on the positive side. In conflict situations, the more calm and quiet a person is, the more he wins. Journalists are mostly curious, impulsive, emotional people. This is why it is difficult for them to control themselves. This is why it is so important to control your emotions. The formation of mediative journalism is not a one-time campaign, but the introduction of a special subject in journalism faculties. While the task of analytical journalism is to bring to the attention of officials the attitude of different experts to events, their

¹ <http://uza.uz/oz/society/200-tup-darakht-no-onuniy-kesildi-25-01-2019>

² <https://uz24.uz/society/toshkent-shari-va-toshkent-viloyati-tumanlarida-gzboshimchalik-bilan-daraht-kesish-olatlari-aniul>

³ <https://sputniknews-uz.com/incidents/20190128/10657438/Soyasiz-bo-Toshkentda-200-ta-darakht-noonuniy-kesib-tashlandi.html>

⁴ <https://www.bbc.com/uzbek/uzbekistan-47043905>

reasonable opinions and suggestions on the legal resolution of conflicts, mediative journalism seeks to reconcile them.

What are the requirements for mediators in journalism?

1. Not giving in to emotions. As a mediator, a journalist must do his job objectively and impartially. True, he cannot be impartial in finding solutions to conflicts involving his relatives and acquaintances. Or it is difficult to draw an objective conclusion if the poor, the disabled, the women are pitying. He can only be a mediator to those who can be honest and truthful. The mediation process is qualitative only if the parties believe in the complete impartiality of the mediator seeking a comprehensive and beneficial solution to the conflict. The journalist-mediator should not pay attention to the information about the personal characteristics, social status, etc. of the parties, which leads to bias. Also, if the mediator has a vested interest in the conflict, he must renounce mediation or start work with the consent of both parties. During mediation, the process should be stopped if there is any doubt or dissatisfaction on the part of the parties.

2. Confidentiality. If the parties do not agree or their disclosure is prohibited by law, the mediator must not disclose how the process is going, its results, as well as the agreement of the parties and the decisions taken. However, this restriction does not preclude special monitoring or data-driven research to study the effectiveness of mediation programs. In some cases, researchers are allowed to study the statistics and can also be interviewed with the consent of the parties.

3. Volunteering. Mediation is a highly voluntary process. That is, no one can force the parties to use mediation. If one party agrees, it is also not possible to force the other party to mediate. At the same time, each participant can leave the process at any time he or she wishes. The result of mediation, that is, the approval of a solution, is also a matter of the voluntary consent of each party. Both parties are responsible for analyzing how the mediation is going and the results.

Anyone can participate as a mediator. However, according to their category, there must be specialists who officially belong to the group of mediators. They include representatives of intergovernmental organizations (UN), state legal institutions (arbitration court, prosecutor's office), special state commissions (for example, conflict management), law enforcement agencies (district inspector in domestic disputes), their leaders in public disputes, public organizations (trade unions).), can be professional mediators-conflictologists.

Informal mediators may include people with sufficient knowledge and skills and life experience, in particular representatives of religious organizations, professional psychologists, social educators, or lawyers.

Today, as a result of the widespread popularity of the Internet and social networks, information about various conflict situations is spreading rapidly. Perhaps in order to attract the public's attention, attention is paid to the wide coverage of conflict situations. Before presenting any information, journalists should pay attention to its authenticity and impartiality, and prepare the material taking into account the rights of the parties. It is necessary to follow the established norms of obtaining information in the preparation of photos or videos of this or that event. A journalistic investigation can only be effective if the analysis of the incident is legally grounded.

Giving in to emotions and taking the side of only one party, as well as using insulting words and phrases in his article, a journalist can tarnish his reputation and simply appear as a supporter. Standing in an impartial and neutral position in conflict situations, a journalist who is able to correctly assess the socio-psychological, legal status of the process - can act not only as a participant, but also as a representative of the so-called fourth power.

A journalist working in mediative journalism should first and foremost be respected by both parties. They need to be trusted.

According to Justin Varilek, founder of the HackPack media platform, "A journalist should be flexible, adaptable, able to see new opportunities in any situation. The journalist must be able to develop social relations, use new information technologies, know all the topics, experts, networking, logistics and organizational work. The main task of the media platform is to bring together journalists, various experts and specialists and solve problems that plague society. The platform also helps journalists to interview government officials, gather information from journalists in the regions when writing general materials, and gather expert opinions. The platform also operates on the social network Facebook, bringing together media representatives and experts from 155 countries.

Mediative journalism is the best way to manage information conflicts. The journalist ensures a constructive dialogue between the two parties.

In many cases, journalists lack general knowledge in one area or another and serve to prepare "abstract materials". To prevent this, journalists need to be able to understand and put the problem correctly, use the opinions of experts, and explain the issue in simple language.

One of the functions of mediative journalism is to convey news emphasis correctly. To know which topic is of interest to a mass audience, you need to keep in touch with them at all times.

The second function is to encourage work with official information (legislation, other official documents). The audience needs to know the legal side

of the issue. The journalist must provide legal documents in a language he or she understands.

The third function is to serve the agreement of the parties.

In short, mediative journalism plays an important role in governing a world full of contradictions and establishing peace.

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