



**Welcome to the Health Journalism Network Newsletter for July 2023! The HJN is a global community of media professionals and communicators with a shared interest and passion for public health. Our monthly newsletters bring you the latest network updates, resources and opportunities to help strengthen the work that you do!**

## At a Glance

- **NEW Resource:** Reporting on the HPV vaccine
- **Winners of the COVID-19 Social Media Influencer Awards**
- **Spain recognises importance of health journalists**
- **Global opportunities**
- **Plus loads more!**

## Journalism in the face of adversity

The HJN is currently working with 10 journalists from around the world for the Mercury Phoenix Trust HIV/AIDS Reporting Fellowship. The Fellows have received in-depth training on HIV/AIDS-related topics, as well as participated in a 'mock newsroom' with Kenyan journalist, author and LGBTQIA+ activist, Kevin Mwachiro. This Fellowship has come at a time when the world continues to surprise us with its' cruelty and hardship. The Anti-Homosexuality Law in Uganda, the torrential rain and floods in India, ongoing conflict in Ukraine, to name just a few. Yet, in the face of adversity journalists, like our MPT Fellows, continue to rise to the occasion, telling stories and breaking the silence in spaces most unwelcoming to their reports. "Look for a twist in the tale," Mwachiro emphasised to the Fellows, encouraging them to find new angles, new voices and new stories. In 2009, the prolific Nigerian feminist writer, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie gave a [TEDtalk about the dangers of a single story](#). She says, "[t]he consequence of the single story is that it robs people of dignity. It makes our recognition of our equal humanity difficult and it emphasizes that we are different rather than how we are similar." The challenges that journalists face around the world are making it harder and harder for them, for us, to ensure that there is never just a single story. "Stories matter. Many stories matter," says Adichie. "Stories have been used to dispossess and to malign, but stories can also be used to empower and to humanize. Stories can break the dignity of a people, but stories can also repair that broken dignity." The HJN salutes you, our

Members, for the incredible work that you do during these challenging times. We continue to strive to support and enrich our network's offering to better meet your needs.

## Rwanda Hosts Women Deliver 2023



Megan Miller, Internews Health Director, joined other Internewsers and some HJN Members at the Women Deliver 2023 conference held in Kigali, Rwanda from July 17-20. It was the first time that this global gathering of women leaders and feminists took place on the African continent and in a country that has made significant progress towards gender equality. The conference ended with a renewed commitment to promote gender equality and uphold women's sexual and reproductive health rights. *Photo courtesy of Government of Rwanda.*

[Read Blog](#)

## Shining a Light on HJN Members

**LISTEN: Solutions health reporting in Nigeria**



HJN Member, Chidera Rosecamille Aneke's latest audio story focuses on how a health center in Imo southeast Nigeria is utilising a town crier to

improve the utilisation of the basic health care provision fund in their community. Give this solutions-journalism story a listen by clicking the button below!

[Listen Here](#)

## Highlights

### **Spain: Government recognition of the role of health journalists should inspire other health officials around the world**



The historical relationship between health authorities and health journalists has oscillated between respect and criticism or rapprochement and disagreements. But rarely, if ever, has a Minister of Health taken the step of recognizing the work of health journalists as a necessary public good. Rarely until a few days ago, when José Miñones, the Spanish Minister of Health and I met in person. I had the honor to attend this in-person meeting as the official representative of the National Association of Health Communicators (ANIS), an organization of more than 700 media professionals committed to reporting on health, writes Graziella Almendral.

*Photo (from left): Graziella Almendral in conversation with José Miñones, Spanish Minister of Health*

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### **Winners of the COVID-19 Social Media Influencer Awards**



**COVID-19 INFLUENCERS**  
2023 Social Media Awards

**Congratulations to the winners**

<b>Pandemic policy and practice</b>  Cinthia Reyes  Mexico	<b>Staying safe</b>  Trisha Greenhalgh  United Kingdom	<b>Understanding the virus</b>  Vinod Balasubramaniam  Malaysia	<b>Young leader</b>  Shivesh Taneja  Canada
<b>COVID-19 care and support</b>  Yelena Bliskov  Kazakhstan	<b>Vaccines</b>  Benjamin Djoudalbaye  Chad	<b>Vaccines</b>  Hector L. Frisbie  Mexico	<b>Long COVID</b>  Padma Priya DVL  India

       

[Meet the Winners](#)

## Upcoming events

**23-26 July - 12th IAS Conference on HIV Science**



The IAS Conference on HIV Science is the world’s most influential meeting on HIV research and its applications. This biennial conference presents the critical advances in basic, clinical and operational HIV research that move science into policy and practice. Through its open and inclusive programme, the meeting sets the gold standard of HIV science, featuring highly diverse and cutting-edge research. This year's conference will convene in Brisbane, Australia. Heading to the conference? Let us know! We would love to feature your stories about the conference on our platforms!

[More on IAS 2023](#)

**15 August - Trust Crisis: Misinformation in Humanitarian Settings**





In crises, people have many needs - food, water, shelter, safety and more. But people also need information: information to help them meet those basic needs, information that helps them make decisions about their lives, and information that helps them to protect themselves. The Covid-19 pandemic brought renewed attention to the dangers and impacts of harmful information, or misinformation, and pushed humanitarian responders to question what their role was in response. At Internews, we discovered that trust is both the root of the problem and the solution. USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance and Internews invite you to an event showcasing innovative approaches to the challenge of misinformation in humanitarian crises based on lessons from over 15 countries in Internews' Rooted in Trust. This is an in-person event only, but we want you to be aware of it!

[Registration for In-Person Event](#)

## Opportunities

### **(Global) Thomson Foundation Young Journalist Award**



The competition enables journalists aged 30 and under, from countries with a Gross National Income (GNI) per capita of less than US\$ 20,000, to send in their best stories. This award is an opportunity for young journalists to demonstrate their investigative skills and hold power to account. It is an annual competition organized in partnership with the UK's Foreign Press Association. Each candidate should submit a portfolio of **THREE** published or broadcast pieces of work produced in the 12 months prior to the award deadline for submissions, which is midnight GMT on **11th August 2023**. The entries can be in any format: print, audio, video, multimedia, or a combination of all four. Be prepared to also submit a summary of the content and mention how it has influenced public debate.

[Apply](#)

## Resources

### Reporting on the HPV vaccine to prevent cervical cancer



The human papillomavirus, also known as HPV, is the virus that causes most cases of cervical cancer and is responsible for the majority of cases of sexually transmitted infections of the reproductive system. Download

this Internews guide to learn more about reporting accurately and fairly about the HPV vaccine and cervical cancer!

[Read More](#)

## Leveraging Brazilian Leadership in the Fight Against Antimicrobial Resistance



Brazil is among the least prepared G20 country to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR), according to a study conducted by the Global Coalition on Aging and the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Almost 140,000 people die with a drug-resistant bacterial infection in Brazil every year. Facing the high—and rising—burden of AMR, Brazil has an opportunity to improve access, stewardship, and innovation for critical antimicrobials at the national, regional, and/or global level(s) by modifying procurement arrangements. This report is also available in Portuguese on the Center for Global Development website. *Image credit: Union for International Cancer Control.*

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