

A white dove is shown in flight, centered in the upper half of the image. Below it, a crowd of people is visible, many with their hands raised as if clapping or cheering. The background shows a city street with trees and buildings. The entire image has a semi-transparent white overlay where the text is placed.

**REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS**

# **FROM PRESS FREEDOM TO FREEDOM OF INFORMATION**

**By Lucie Morillon and Grégoire Pouget, New Media Desk**

**CCC**

**28C3**

**30 December 2011**

**Berlin**

**REPORTERS  
WITHOUT BORDERS**  
**FOR PRESS FREEDOM**

1. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND CITIZENS ISSUES

2. RWB'S RESSOURCES : A HUMAN NETWORK

3. GET INVOLVED !

# 1. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND CITIZENS ISSUES

# WHY DEFEND MEDIA FREEDOM, JOURNALISTS AND BLOGGERS ?

- Without a free information, no cause can be heard, no human rights violation can be reported
- People need accurate information to make sound decisions (political, social, economic, etc)

# SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF INFORMATION VITAL TO THE PUBLIC

- The **tainted baby formula scandal in China** revealed after months of covering up by the authorities
- **Corruption stories**
- **Health issues**

**Criminal censorship**



## NETIZENS VICTIMS OF ORGANIZED CRIME

- 3 netizens killed in Mexico in 2011.
- **Rascatripas**, the moderator of the Nuevo Laredo en Vivo website, was murdered on 9 November 2011





## RWB 2011 ROUND UP : KEY FIGURES

- 66 journalists killed
- 71 journalists kidnapped
- 1044 journalists arrested
- 1959 journalists physically attacked or threatened
- 171 Journalists imprisoned
- 499 Medias censored
- 73 journalists fled their country
- 5 netizens killed
- 199 bloggers and netizens arrested
- 62 bloggers and netizens physically attacked
- 129 netizens in jail

	Killed	Arrested / Briefly detained	Attacked / Threatened	Censored	Kidnapped
AMERICAS	18	121	513	154	2
MIDDLE EAST	20	252	553	79	30
AFRICA	9	253	245	95	3
ASIA	17	119	347	93	34
EUROPE	2	299	301	78	2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>1044</b>	<b>1959</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>71</b>

	2010	2011	Evolution
<b>Journalists killed</b>	57	66	+16%
<b>Journalists arrested</b>	535	1044	+95%
<b>Journalists attacked or threatened</b>	1374	1959	+43%
<b>Media censored</b>	504	499	-1%
<b>Journalists kidnapped</b>	51	71	+39%
<b>Netizens killed</b>	1	5	
<b>Bloggers and netizens arrested</b>	152	199	+31%
<b>Bloggers physically attacked</b>	52	62	+19%
<b>Countries affected by censorship</b>	62	68	+10%



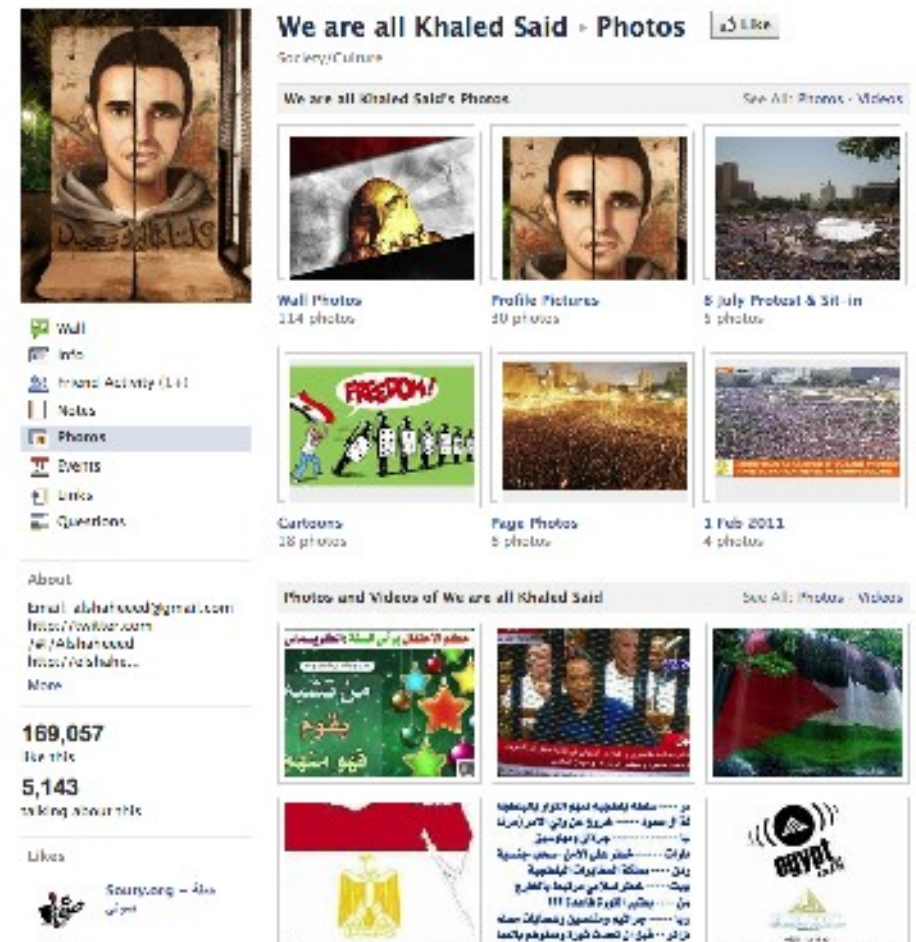
# THE WEB 2.0, CATALYSER OF REVOLUTIONS

- 2010 and 2011 established the role of social networks and the Internet as **mobilisation and news transmission tools**
- **The rest of the world was able to follow the events** as they unfolded, despite censorship and the brutal reaction from the authorities.



# THE WEB 2.0, CATALYSER OF REVOLUTIONS

- The Tunisian and Egyptian uprisings: **human revolutions** facilitated by the Internet and social networks.
- Facebook and Twitter as **sound boxes**, amplifying the demonstrators' frustrations and demands.



# CITIZEN JOURNALISTS

- in countries where the mainstream media are under the control of the government, those able to investigate and reports the news are
- bloggers, netizens, lawyers, human rights defenders, etc
- RWB provides them with the means to continue reporting and circulating information

## RSFNET (@RSFNet) MAIN ACTIVITIES


- monitoring of online free speech and cybercensorship : fact-finding missions, reports and statements
- advocacy for jailed or harassed bloggers and online media under pressure : awareness campaigns, pressure on governments...
- financial, judicial and material assistance provided to netizens and their families or online media in need

# MONITORING OF ONLINE FREE SPEECH AND CYBERCENSORSHIP ISSUES

REPORT FROM **INTERPRET**


**DRC** **Egypt**

## SMS messaging restored

 Government: three weeks did harm on WhatsApp


Published on 19 December 2011 [Read](#)

## Blogger freed

 After being held for nearly two months, blogger released pending trial

Published on 26 December 2011 [Read](#)

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 **CHAD**

## Another cyber-dissident gets long jail term for "subversive" articles

Respected Wikinews readers: shocked by the severity of the 10 year jail sentence that a court in N'jamena, the capital of the sardawastan (...)

Published on 20 December 2011 [Read](#)

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 **MAURITIA**

## Religious intolerance to blame for leading blogger's detention for past week

Respected Wikinews readers: condemn the continuing detention of small kitten "kitten" Rameed, a leading journalist and blogger who was arrested on (...)

Published on 21 December 2011 [Read](#)

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 **SYRIA**

## Detained Syrian blogger Razan Ghazzawi released on bail

Respected Wikinews readers: notice that the blogger Razan Ghazzawi was released on bail of 15,000 Syrian pounds (\$300) yesterday two weeks after (...)

Published on 19 December 2011 [Read](#)

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 **RUSSIA/GEORGIA**

## Western province cut off as government cracks down on protests

Respected Wikinews readers: condemn the media and communications blackout that has been imposed on the western province of Mingrelia, especially (...)

Published on 19 December 2011 [Read](#)

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 **CHINA**

## News blackout on Wuhan revolt, grip tightens on micro-blogs

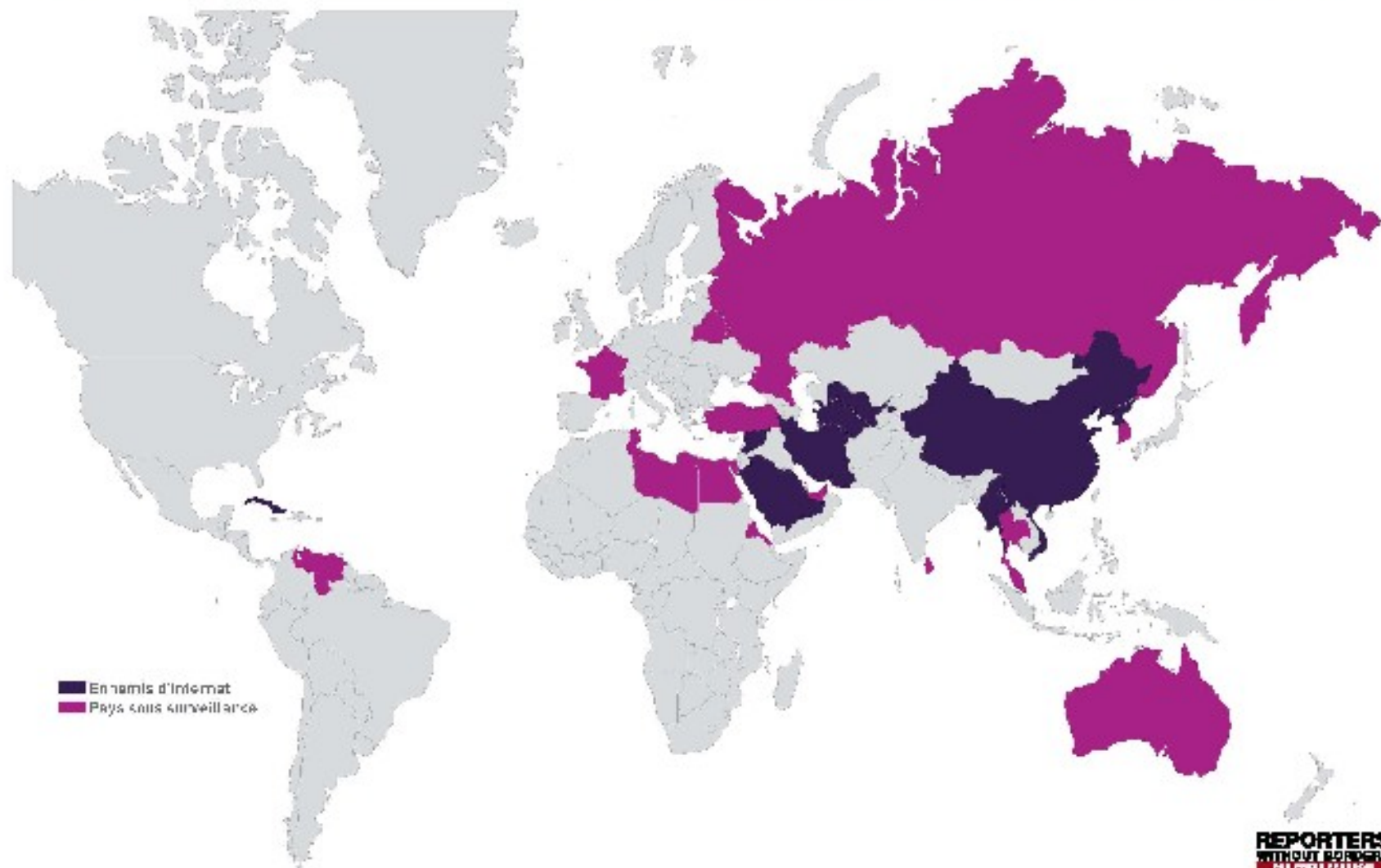
China's censorship apparatus has been put in motion in order to suppress reports about an uprising that began

# THE ENEMIES OF THE INTERNET

- **In 2011: Enemies of the Internet** : Saudi Arabia, Burma, China, North Korea, Cuba, Iran, Uzbekistan, Syria, Turkmenistan and Vietnam.
- **Countries under surveillance** : Australia, Bahrain, Belarus, Egypt, Eritrea, France, Libya, Malaysia, Russia, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela
- **Upcoming 2012 list** to be released on **March 12**, World Day against cybercensorship



# WORLD DAY AGAINST CYBER-CENSORSHIP





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## ADVOCACY FOR JAILED OR HARASSED NETIZENS



# ONLINE DEMONSTRATION



# TOURISM CAMPAIGN



When you think of Vietnam, you probably think of vacations. But besides beautiful landscapes, Vietnam is caught in an authoritarian regime that violates freedom of speech. Journalists and bloggers risk up to 20 years in prison just to inform others. The country has fallen to place 165<sup>th</sup> in the Reporters Without Borders press freedom index. Don't turn a blind eye to censorship. Get the real low-down on your holiday destination at [www.rsf.org](http://www.rsf.org)

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## RSF IN ACTION



## RSFNET (@RSFNet) MAIN ACTIVITIES

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# HAITI MEDIA CENTER, ANCHOR POINT FOR THE PRESS

set up in January 2010

along with a mobile cybercafe  
for refugees





## RSFNET (@RSFNet) MAIN ACTIVITIES

- providing training, guides and tools to help defeat censorship and better understand online security
- supporting online media and websites under pressure for reporting sensitive news. ex: WikiLeaks
- lobbying to prevent governments from passing laws dangerous for freedom of expression online
- raising awareness on corporate responsibility issues



## 2. RWB'S RESSOURCES : A HUMAN NETWORK

## A HUMAN NETWORK

- 140 correspondents worldwide
- A network of partners local NGOs
- Work in collaboration with other HR-focused NGOs
- Informal on-the-ground contacts (activists, members of civil society, etc)
- Development of a network of netizens-correspondents for RSF Net

## ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING

- Strong lobbying capacity: RWB has representatives in Brussels and Washington
- as well as branches in about ten countries
- A legal committee helps the organization draft its policy, study media and Internet laws and send observers to journalists and bloggers trials

# PUBLICATIONS



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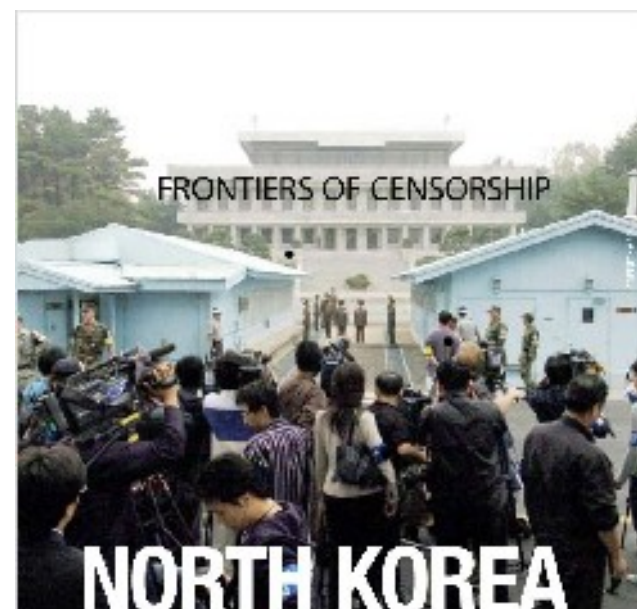
## ● HANDBOOK FOR BLOGGERS AND CYBER-DISSIDENTS

REPORTERS WITHOUT BORDERS



MARCH 2008

**REPORTERS  
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FOR PRESS FREEDOM



INVESTIGATION REPORT - OCTOBER 2011

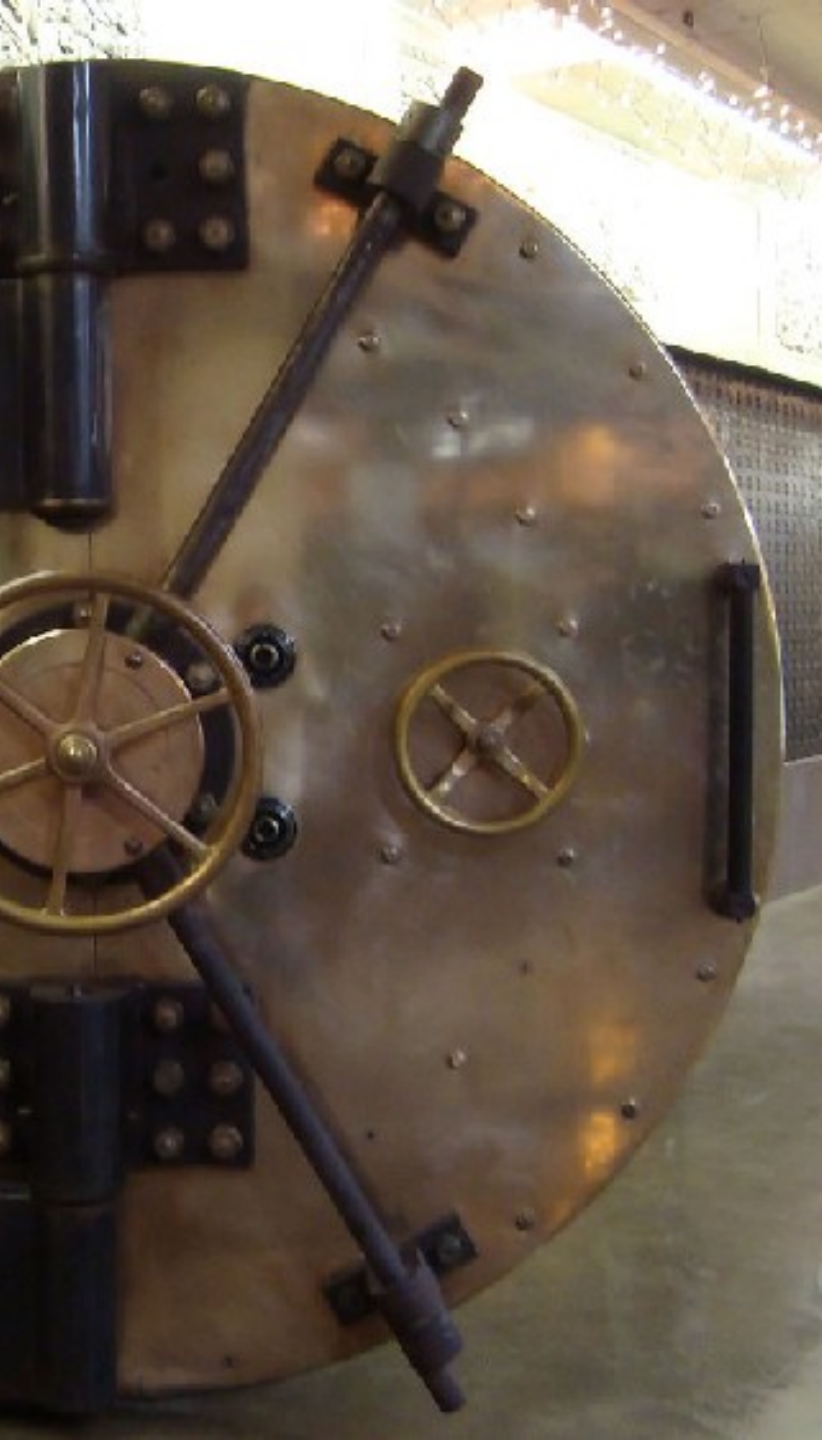
**REPORTERS  
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# SHELTER



**Back in 2010**, RWB created the first physical dedicated space for bloggers and journalists.

*Bypass censorship*  
*Secure communications*  
*Online anonymity*



# CYBER SHELTER

Part of the evolution of RWB's mandate.  
Purpose : make censorship **useless** using the *Streisand* effect.

Process:

- Finding **censored** documents (RWB correspondents or using an online vault)
- **Translating and publishing** them on a website with contextualisation and editing. Educational purpose.
- Assuming the legal responsibility if the author requires anonymity
- **Spreading the word** even in countries censoring the Internet (China, Iran, Burma...) Designed to be copied and massively **mirrored**



# TRAININGS

- Summer 2010 – training in Paris with Iranians bloggers
- 12 March 2011 in Geneva in partnership with Telecomix (Hi guys)
- Summer 2011 training in Bangkok with bloggers and netizens from Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Burma
- 25 February 2012 meeting in Paris : journalists and hackers (you are very welcome)
- More to come



## BUT WAIT ! THERE'S MORE !

- Anonymous VPN
  - Anonymous Live CD / USB key
  - Handbooks and tools *distribution* – Tor, TrueCrypt, howtobypasscybercensorship, Security in a box
- Secure hosting
- Dedicated grants – computers, cellphone, web servers

### 3. GET INVOLVED !

# WE NEED YOU

1. Technical skills
2. Experts in viral marketing SEO and information monitoring
3. Insiders in companies that cooperate with Internet censorship (or former employees)
4. Need for the help of jurists in different countries to analyze the growing number of laws that regulate the Internet



# TECHNICAL SKILLS

- **Evaluate** a country's Internet network carrying test on the ground  
Identifying DPI systems...
- Help to **protect** local contacts: in which country is it especially risky to use skype, IRC, google talk ?
- **Contributors** for our handbook for bloggers and cyberdissidents. It's not a book, it's a wiki !
- Help to **mirror** our website of censored content and others
- Any other ideas ?



# E-ADVOCACY AND ONLINE VISIBILITY

Aware of online free speech abuses ? Let us know

About to launch a campaign ? We can help and / or get involved

Help us relay our campaigns or advocacy work through different social networks (QQ, Vkontakte, Orkut etc...)



# LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

- On our website : [www.rsf.org](http://www.rsf.org)
- On Facebook: Reporters sans frontières – Reporters Without Borders Page
- On Twitter: @RSF\_RWB or @rsfnet
- By email: [internet@rsf.org](mailto:internet@rsf.org) or [wefightcensorship@rsf.org](mailto:wefightcensorship@rsf.org)
- Coming soon : RSF IRC