

2024

ANNUAL REPORT

MEDIA DIVERSITY INSTITUTE - ARMENIA
(MDIA)

mdi.am
cyberhub.am



INTRODUCTION

The Media Diversity Institute - Armenia (MDIA) has continued its mission to enhance media diversity and strengthen the resilience of Armenian civil society against digital threats. Throughout 2024, MDIA has undertaken various initiatives to support journalists, media organizations, human rights defenders, and the broader civil society in Armenia.

2024

TABLE OF CONTENT

STRENGTHENING DIGITAL SECURITY	3
CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS	6
FUTURE PLANS	7
CONCLUSION	8

STRENGTHENING DIGITAL SECURITY

2024



STRENGTHENING DIGITAL SECURITY

- ✔ Conducted comprehensive IT audits at 12 media outlets and human rights organizations, followed by post-audit support to fortify their digital security measures.
- ✔ Responded to 287 digital security incidents at over 30 media outlets and 71 organizations.
- ✔ Offered infrastructure support to six media outlets and six human rights organizations to enhance their digital security infrastructure.
- ✔ Delivered digital security training to at least 30 journalists and media representatives, as well as to 20 human rights activists and civil society representatives.
- ✔ Published digital security alerts, guidance, blog posts, and threat reports to raise digital security awareness among the Armenian media and general public.
- ✔ Published the updated version of the “Reporting Diversity Manual” and conducted ethical reporting trainings for 20 media representatives.
- ✔ Developed 12 Digital Security Policy Documents.

STRENGTHENING DIGITAL SECURITY

- ✔ Advocated for legislative changes and improvements on draft laws “On Cybersecurity” and “On Public Data,” and successfully campaigned to stop the bill “On Granting the Police Access to Surveillance Cameras” in Parliament.
- ✔ Conducted monitoring of the use of public data by state bodies and large business corporations.
- ✔ Initiated discussions with civil society and the Armenian tech community on Internet freedom, privacy, and data protection issues.
- ✔ Conducted thorough investigations into various cybersecurity threats, including spyware, malware, and DDoS attacks that targeted media organizations and human rights groups, published detailed reports and shared the key IOCs and TTPs with the larger cyber security community.
- ✔ Took part in a major fact-finding report into the ethnic cleansing of the Armenian population in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Why Are There No Armenians In Nagorno-Karabakh?
Fact-Finding Report



CHALLENGES AND SOLUTIONS

MDIA addressed several challenges in 2024, including:

Cybersecurity threats that jeopardized the ability of journalists and media organizations to provide unbiased information and protect their sources.

Developing a policy framework to manage digital assets and infrastructure securely, strengthening the digital resilience of media outlets and human rights organizations.

2024

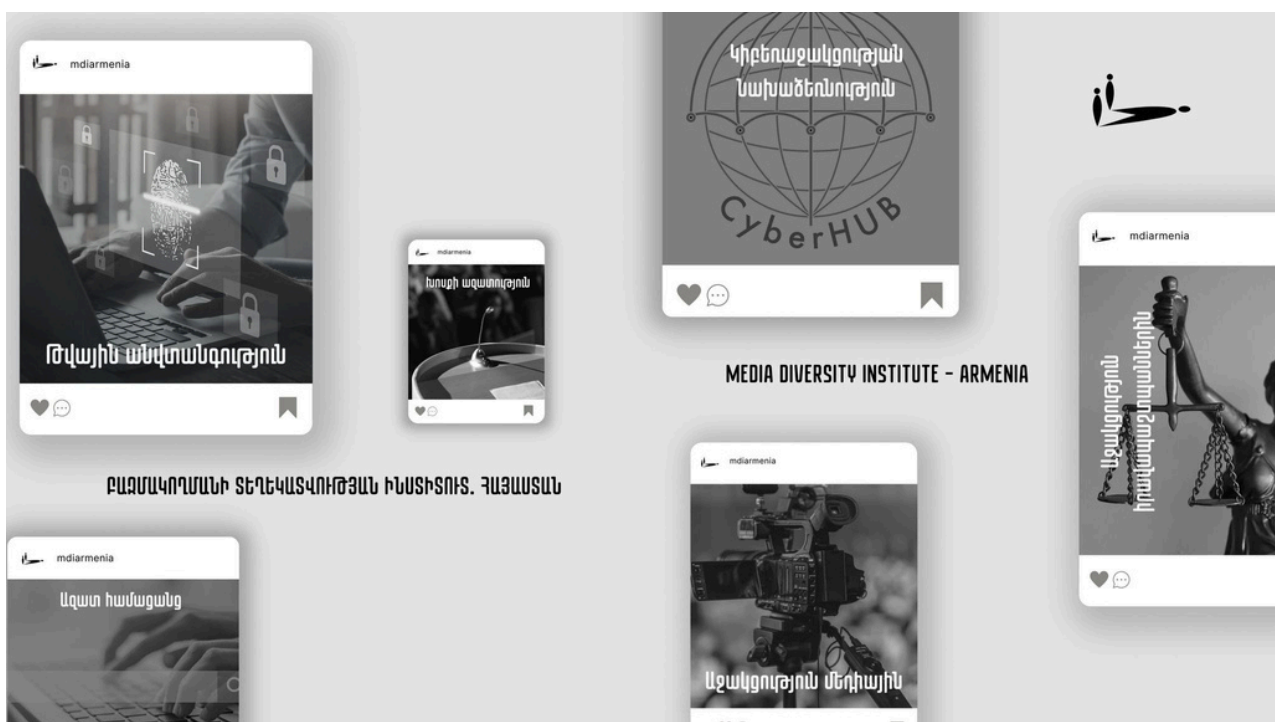


FUTURE PLANS

Looking ahead, MDIA plans to:

- Continue enhancing the digital security of Armenian media outlets, human rights organizations, and civil society representatives.
- Expand the distribution of the “Reporting Diversity Manual” to reach more journalists and media professionals.
- Further develop and implement digital security policies and guidelines for media organizations and human rights defenders.
- Strengthen its threatlab and fact-checking capabilities.

2024



CONCLUSION

MDIA remains committed to promoting media diversity and strengthening the resilience of Armenian civil society. The achievements of 2024 reflect our dedication to supporting journalists, media organizations, human rights defenders, and the broader community in Armenia. We look forward to continuing our efforts in the coming year.

2024

mdi.am
cyberhub.am

