

Ukraine: Poignant testimonies of journalists in exile

As we approach the second anniversary of Russia's invasion of Ukraine on 24 February, CFI presents the stories of seven journalists in exile (six women and one man) who share their experiences of the Yak Vdoma project since leaving Ukraine. This initiative is funded by the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs.

These journalists, who benefited from the support project developed by CFI and France Médias Monde, answered complex questions about life in exile, journalistic coverage in times of conflict, social transformation in the face of war and the role of women in the Ukrainian conflict. [Their testimonies](#) bear witness to their resilience and courage in dealing with the tragic consequences of war.

Yak Vdoma, based in Bucharest, Romania, is a residence for journalists founded in 2022 to support a number of Ukrainian journalists in exile. It offers a safe environment from which the war in Ukraine can be covered independently. This initiative, which serves as a response to disinformation, also provides financial, material, logistical and psycho-social support, together with training aimed at broadening the journalists' skills in a professional environment tailored to their reality of remote working.

Thierry Vallat, Chairman and Managing Director of CFI, highlights "*the critical importance of allowing journalists to continue their work freely, in view of Kremlin-generated propaganda.*"

The Yak Vdoma residence has been home to 25 journalists (mostly women) and their families since September 2022 and offers a safe haven and office space for those who are continuing to work in spite of the difficult circumstances.

[Read the testimonies](#)





About Canal France International

CFI actively promotes the development of the media throughout the world and, in particular, in Sub-Saharan Africa, the Arab world and EU neighbouring countries. Our actions revolve around the fight against misinformation, the promotion of gender equality, the protection of the environment, the promotion of democracy and citizen engagement. CFI is an agency of the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs and a subsidiary of the France Médias Monde Group. cfi.fr

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