

**WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY - MAY 3**

"The United States is unusual among the industrial democracies in the rigidity of the system of technological control... 'muckspeak'... we might say - exercised through the mass media."

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"The secret for the news was written 52 years ago by Edward R. Murrow, who taught us many valuable lessons about how to do our job well. One of them is this: '...because without it authority often goes unchecked.'"

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"There's now a hierarchy, but presidents make decisions, so we're the deciders. The press secretary announces those decisions, and you people in the press are the ones who have to figure out what to do with it. Just put 'em through a spit check and go home!"

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"I think it is absolutely essential in a democratic society to have competition in the media, a lot of competition, and we seem to be moving away from that."

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"The media is supposed to be custodians of the facts and watchdogs of government. They have, for the most part, failed at both of these things."

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"I certainly think we have an emergency in media, and we gotta fix it."

**- Phil Donahue**

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"The media is absolutely essential to the functioning of a democracy. It's not our job to cozy up to power. We're supposed to be the check and balance on government."

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"By the end of the millennium five men controlled the world's media. And the people rejoiced, because their TVs told them so."

**- Michael Moore**

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"The speed of communication is wonderful to behold. It is also true that speed can multiply the distribution of information and ideas beyond the limits of the universe."

**- Edward R. Murrow**

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"The idea of a liberal media bias is simply a myth. If only it were true, it might have more influence, more influence than the conservative media, which controls the country."

**- Barbara Walters**

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"The media is too concentrated, too few people own too much. There's really five companies that control 90 percent of what we read, see and hear. It's not healthy."

**- Barbara Walters**

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"I think people are too often conformist and, in some cases, conforming. We need to have a full marketplace of ideas in this country that in my opinion is the best, most diverse range of ideas."

**- Matalia Vassiliou-Herzer**

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"We are going to have the public conversations essential to taking on serious differences from climate change to corporate power to war to the future of our country. The media can facilitate the conversations or shut them down."

**- Howard Zinn**

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"I can't tell you how many times we'll run into a journalist and go, 'Boy that... I wish we could be saying that. That's exactly the way we need to be saying that!'"

**- Arianna Huffington**

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"The quality of democratic life and the quality of journalism are deeply entwined."

**- Bill Moyers**

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**- Arianna Huffington**

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"And I always think, 'Well, why don't you?'"

**- Howard Zinn**

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"We need to decide that we will not go to war, whatever reason is given. We need to decide that we will not support a war, even if it is always indiscriminate, a war against civilians, a war against children."

**- Howard Zinn**

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## May 3

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makes a difference!  
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