



Ressort: Mixed News

Reporters Without Borders host security training

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Reporters Without Borders (Germany) in 2020 will provide eight scholarships for journalists on digital security topics. The four-month training invites professional reporters, bloggers and citizen journalists from countries in crisis or war and covers travel to Berlin, visa costs, apartment, EUR 4.000 stipends, public transport and computer use. Deadline for applications is 08 January.

According to the organizers the selected participants of the Berlin Scholarship Program will complete a comprehensive training program in digital security issues relevant to their work. Applicants must have a good command of English and the intention to return to their country after the fellowship. The program is supported by the Berlin Senate Department for Economics, Energy and Public Enterprises and ProtonMail. The aim of the scholarship is to provide scholarship holders with practical knowledge on how to protect themselves against digital threats such as surveillance or hacker attacks in their journalistic work. In addition, they will also receive training in how to teach others in their home region about digital security issues.

The program covers the travel costs, takes care of all visa-related matters, provides an apartment in Berlin for the duration of the scholarship, a monthly stipend of EUR 1.000, free use of public transportation in Berlin, and organizes participation in a varied scholarship program taught by experts in the field of digital security. Main topics of the digital security training include: How do I identify my risks? What rights do journalists have against government surveillance? How does the Internet technically work (including IP, DNS and email communication)? How can I secure my communications (email, calls, messaging, etc.) against surveillance? How can I hide myself online? How do I secure my accounts and what helps against trolling?

Applications are accepted from professional journalists, bloggers and citizen journalists who are exposed to digital threats due to their work in their home regions; want to learn and work extensively with digital security in order to improve their personal security and are interested in passing on the knowledge acquired during the scholarship program to colleagues in their home regions and, ideally, already have some experience in teaching (including in other areas). Requirements include a very strong command of the English language, as the scholarship program will be conducted entirely in English. A high level of proficiency in regards to digital security is not required; anyone who is used to working with a computer can apply.

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