The long passage of history: The evolution of professionalism among journalists and their international contacts
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http://www.uta.fi/cmt/en/contact/staff/kaarlenordenstreng/index.html

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• Origins of the profession
• First international conferences
• Early international associations
• Turning point World War Two
• Cold War developments
• Summanry: international influence on professionalism
Origins of the profession

According to Oxford English Dictionary profession as a concept & word appears first in 1425, professional comes to use in the 17th Century, professionalism and professionalize in 1856, deprofessionalize in 1884

Many concepts have long history, e.g. watchdog was used in law discourse already in mid-19th Century

Journalism as a profession emerged in the 2nd half of 19th Century along with national guilds & unions

Grew out of political advocacy movements, boosted by commercial mass media in early 20th Century

Sociology of professions has rich tradition but so far not much application to journalism
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1893</td>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>International Press Congress</td>
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<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>Antwerp</td>
<td>Congrès internationale de la Presse</td>
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<td>1897</td>
<td>London</td>
<td>Journalists Friends of Peace</td>
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<td>1904</td>
<td>St Louis</td>
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<td>1915</td>
<td>San Francisco</td>
<td>Press Congress of the World</td>
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<td>1926</td>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Pan-American Congress of Journalists</td>
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<td>1927</td>
<td>Santo Domingo</td>
<td>Congress of Latin American Journ.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>Moscow</td>
<td>International Conference of Proletarian and Revolutionary Writers</td>
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International Congress of Press People
Antwerp (Belgium), July 1894

Attended by representatives on mainly press owners from 17 countries, including France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, New Zealand, Russia, Spain and Sweden

Topics discussed included
- definition of journalist and dignity of the profession
- property rights, who own the news
- education of journalists
- women’s emancipation
- false news and peaceful international reporting
- need to set up an international association
Early international associations

1894 International Union of Press Associations (IUPA)
1909 Imperial Union of Journalists (...Commonwealth)
1921 International Association of Journalists accredited to the League of Nations
1924 International Sporting Press Association
1925 International Technical Press Federation
1925 International Federation of the Periodic Press
1925 International Catholic Union of the Press
1926 Fédération internationale des Journalistes (FIJ)
1928 Association of Proletarian-Revolutionary Writers
1933 International Federation of Newspaper Publishers Associations (FIADEJ...FIEJ...WAN)
Fédération internationale des Journalistes (FIJ)

Founded in Paris in June 1926, first congress in Geneva at ILO in September 1926, HQ in Paris
Initiated by French journalists’ syndicate as follow-up of 1925 ILO poll on working conditions of journalists
Members: national associations of professional journalists with main income from journalistic work
Purpose: defence of their rights and professional interests, liberty of the press and journalism, extension of these to journalists of all countries
Active until 1930s when rise of Facism began to complicate affairs and finished in 1940 with German forces occupying Paris and destroying headquarters
LE TRIBUNAL D'HONNEUR
INTERNATIONAL
DES JOURNALISTES

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE
DES JOURNALISTES
2, RUE MONTPENSIER, PARIS
Turning point World War Two

FIJ with projects such as international court of honour and international card stood for working journalists. After IUPA as common platform for workers and employers failed, publishers organized around FIADEJ. War-time successor of FIJ convened in 1946 congress in Copenhagen, attended by 165 delegates of journalists’ unions from 21 countries, from USA and USSR to Australia and Peru, deciding to establish the International Organization of Journalists (IOJ). I served as IOJ President in 1976-1990 and wrote with its Secretary General two-part history of international movement of journalists (source of this presentation).
Opening session of the founding IOJ congress in Copenhagen.
Cold War developments

After founding congress in Copenhagen IOJ had in 1947 successful congress in Prague, where HQ was placed. But in 1948 rise of Cold War led to split: US and West European members left, while unions from Eastern Europe and developing countries stayed. In 1952 US and West European unions established in Brussels the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ). World meetings of journalists were convened in 1956-1964, with IOJ support, to unite the divided movement. Journalists in Africa, Latin America and Asia established regional associations and increasingly joined IOJ. However, IOJ-IFJ division continued until the 1990s.

La lutte de tous les peuples d'Afrique nous intéresse. La lutte de tous les peuples de l'Afrique pour la liberté, la démocratie est liée avec la lutte de libération des peuples africains.

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Summary: international influence on professionalism

• Tactical: boosting the collective identity & status of the profession (power)
• Strategic: improving the skills and articulating the role of journalists in society (competence)
• Despite international influence, journalism remains predominantly national, while parallel development
• The long passage of history continues after 2000 with the profession showing contradictory trends of
  - diversification
  - disintegration
  - de-professionalization