

# **NARRATIVE REPORT**

2019

**You want to tell great stories?**

**You're not alone.**

**Hostwriter powers the collaborative future of journalism.**

Whether the issue is migration, climate change or international crime: in the connected world of the 21st Century, events have effects around the globe. To tell the whole story, journalists need to work together. However, young professional journalists often lack the necessary contacts to international colleagues. Hostwriter supports journalists at all career levels to raise the quality of media coverage by providing local contacts around the globe.

Hostwriter sees cross-border journalism as a tool to solve two pressing global challenges: to raise the quality of foreign reporting and to overcome Western bias within the global news narrative. By connecting international media professionals, providing training in 'Cross-Border Journalism' and launching projects that shed light on unequal power dynamics within the field, Hostwriter enables a new kind of journalism that is as diverse as the societies it serves.

# Looking Back and Forth



When was the last time you felt exactly at the right place, at the right time, doing exactly what you've always wanted to do? For me personally, 2019 was a year when this excitement was omnipresent. Ever since we launched our collaborative book project – *Unbias the News: Why diversity matters for journalism* – at the Global Investigative Journalism Conference in Hamburg, Germany, it felt like we truly found our mission.

At Hostwriter, we've enabled collaboration among journalists since we went online in May 2014. But it was only in 2019 that our diverse network of colleagues from 150+ countries helped us shed light on the dominance of white, male, Western voices in journalism and how this affects the quality of foreign reporting for the worse. Today, we see cross-border journalism as a tool to solve two pressing global challenges: to raise the quality of foreign reporting and to overcome Western bias within the global news narrative. With this sharpened focus, we will continue to power the collaborative future of journalism and fight for a new kind of reporting that is as diverse as the societies it serves!

Thank you to the incredible Hostwriter team – Mohammad Bassiki, Mariana Delgado, Bernadette Geyer, Katja Heitmann, Tina Lee, Kaustubh Srikanth, Zahra Salah Uddin and Andy Wilke. Hostwriter would suck without you :)

Cheers to an incredible year,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tabea Grzeszyk". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Tabea" being more prominent.

Tabea Grzeszyk, CEO

# Highlights

**4,700**

member journalists

**107**

journalists applied for the  
2019 Hostwriter Prize

**152**

Countries  
represented

**300**

journalists trained via  
15 workshops

**160,000+**

people reached by our video  
outreach campaign

**900 %**

growth in # of people on  
HostWIRE

**520%**

increase in average monthly  
user visits on HostWIRE

**2,700**

journalists learned about  
Hostwriter at 27 events

# Our First Book

Hostwriter publishes its first book, *Unbias the News*, to challenge Western bias in journalism

In journalism, white, male, Western voices still dominate and are often privileged over others, which means that we are not getting the whole story, or the most accurate one. At Hostwriter, we asked journalists to tell us about the barriers they face in their field and potential ways to fix them. Our colleagues around the globe – from Brazil to Zimbabwe, Tajikistan to the Philippines, and China to the U.S. – contributed stories that are surprising, funny and sometimes infuriating, directly addressing the challenges to making journalism more diverse. The result is a field guide to unbiasing the newsroom and a launchpad for a new kind of journalism that looks more like the society it serves.

At the start of 2019, we enlisted 10 Hostwriter Ambassadors to serve as editors and to assist Tina Lee – Hostwriter's Head of the

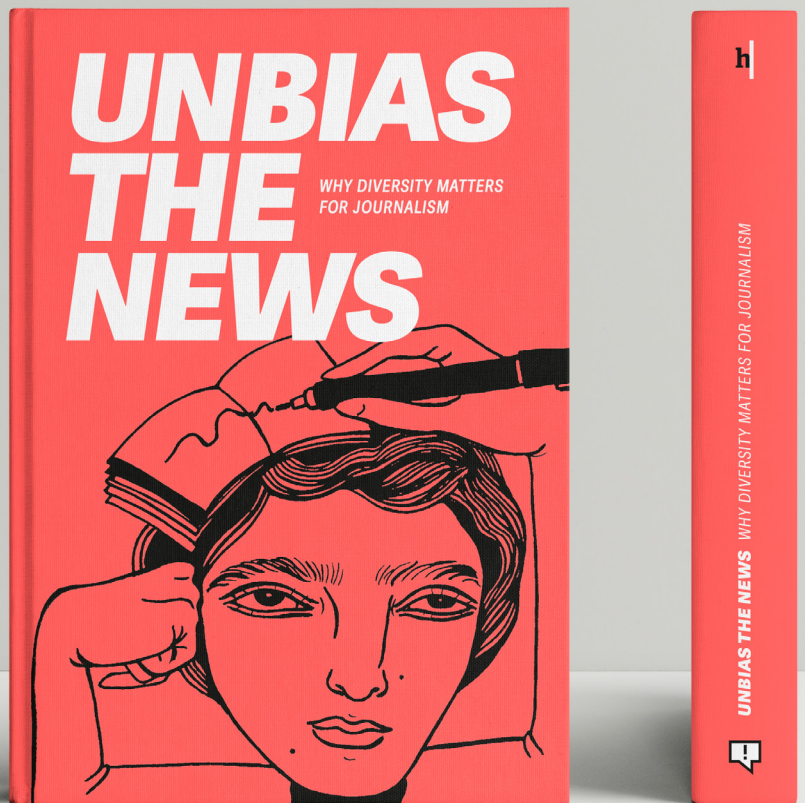
Ambassador Network – who served as editor-in-chief, in the selection of more than 30 articles by journalists from around the world. *Unbias the News: Why diversity matters for journalism* also features original illustrations by Afghan-German artist Moshtari Hilal, who was commissioned to create the works based on the articles in the book.

*Unbias the News* is available in both German and English through the CORRECTIV website and [UnbiasTheNews.org](http://UnbiasTheNews.org).

**"Diversity is not about political correctness. It's about quality journalism."**

*Tabea Grzeszyk, Hostwriter CEO & Co-Founder*

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and English through the CORRECTIV website  
and [UnbiasTheNews.org](http://UnbiasTheNews.org).

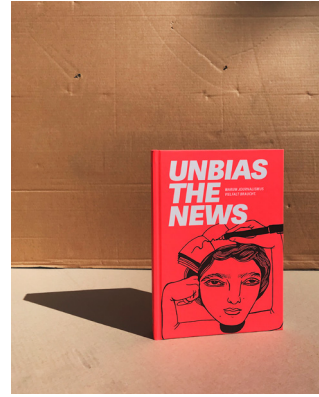


# The Book Launch

Hostwriter officially launched *Unbias the News: Why diversity matters for journalism* at the 2019 Global Investigative Journalism Conference (GIJC) in Hamburg, Germany, in September. We held a book launch event featuring readings and a panel discussion with authors and the illustrator – on the MS Stubnitz, a historic ship in Hamburg – as part of the conference.

**“We could never have anticipated the incredibly positive, global response to *Unbias the News*. It is a testament to the work of our authors and editors, and their bravery in recounting their often difficult personal experiences in the field of journalism. We believe the response shows that this book was very timely and that our work on this topic is just beginning.”**

*Christina Lee*





# Unbias the News in the Press

*Unbias the News* has received a lot of positive publicity so far – ranging from interviews with the German National Radio, invitations to podcasts by journalism.co.uk and Global Voices, to national and international newspapers.

Literary critic Ebru Tasdemir of the German *taz* newspaper writes, “All white men in journalism should read this book,” and Rasmus Kleis Nielson, the Director of the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at the University of Oxford in the UK and Editor-in-Chief of the *International Journal of Press/Politics*, included *Unbias the News* on a list of 100 inspiring books about journalism. The U.S.-based Center for Cooperative Media honored *Unbias the News* as one of 10 “Collaborations that left a mark on 2019.”

Articles from the book have been republished online by other journalism sites:

## **“Watch Your Language: How English Is Skewing the Global News Narrative”**

Tanya Pampalone’s article was republished on the website of the Global Investigative Journalism Network, 27 September 2019.

## **“Unsichtbare Wissenschaft: Nicht nur die Saurier verschwanden, auch die Namen ihrer Entdecker”**

The German version of Laura Vargas-Parada’s article “Excuse Me, That’s My Discovery! Bias in Science Reporting,” was republished online by *Perspective Daily*, 31 October 2019.

## **“Raubtiere im Newsroom”**

The German version of Anuradha Sharma’s article, “If It Weren’t for the Newsroom Predators,” was republished online by Watch-Salon, 15 January 2020.

**"We're bringing a fresh approach to diversifying newsrooms, so we took a fresh approach to the book design, while making sure it was still tied to Hostwriter in a visual way. Enriched with the great illustrations by Moshtari Hilal, the book gets a super unique look."**

*Andy Wilke, Lead Design*



# Meet the Winners of the 2019 Hostwriter Prizes

More than 100 journalists applied for this year's Hostwriter Prizes – a 10% increase over 2018. We awarded €5,000 to four projects.



**"The Hostwriter platform, which allowed us to find journalists by expertise and by the countries in which they are based, was very useful in finding the right team members!"**

*Ludovica Jona*

## **Invisible Borders**

The Story Prize 1st Place – €2,000 – went to Ludovica Jona, Giacomo Zandonini, Petra Sorge, Caitlin Chandler and Chris Jones for their story, "Invisible Borders." The story looks at European Union investment in the use of biometric authentication (fingerprints and facial recognition technologies) for border control purposes despite experts' skepticism.

## **Fighting Female Genital Mutilation**

The Story Prize 2nd Place – €1,000 – went to Patrick Egwu, Annie Njanja and Mamadou Lamine for their story, "Nigeria, Kenya and Senegal: Three African countries providing solutions in fight against FGM," a solutions-driven story that focuses on strategies adopted by NGOs and activists in the fight against Female Genital Mutilation.



**“Hostwriter created a very useful platform for us to connect and collaborate on this project. It would have been impossible to do a cross-border project like this without Hostwriter.”**

*Patrick Egwu*

Hostwriter also awarded Pitch Prizes of €1,000 each to two stories.



#### **Cocaine Ports**

One Pitch Prize went to Margherita Bettoni and Cecilia Anesi for their idea, “Cocaine Ports,” an exposé of how cocaine is trafficked through the ports in Northern Europe. Instead of having to travel to several countries themselves, the team plans to use Hostwriter to put together “an international team of journalists, joining forces for an in-depth investigation, with each reporter bringing his or her expertise and sources.”

#### **The Train to Poland**

The other Pitch Prize went to Abhaya Raj Joshi and Monika Pronczuk for their idea, “The Train to Poland,” an investigation into how Nepali workers are recruited to work in Eastern Europe (Poland), what the workers go through along the way and who benefits from the recruitment process. Abhaya and Monika met through Hostwriter and plan to use the platform “to connect with journalists in India who may be interested in providing input for the story.”

*Hostwriter Prize is donated each year by Otto Sprenger Foundation. The foundation honors the work of German journalist Otto Sprenger through supporting collaboration in journalism and social engagement.*

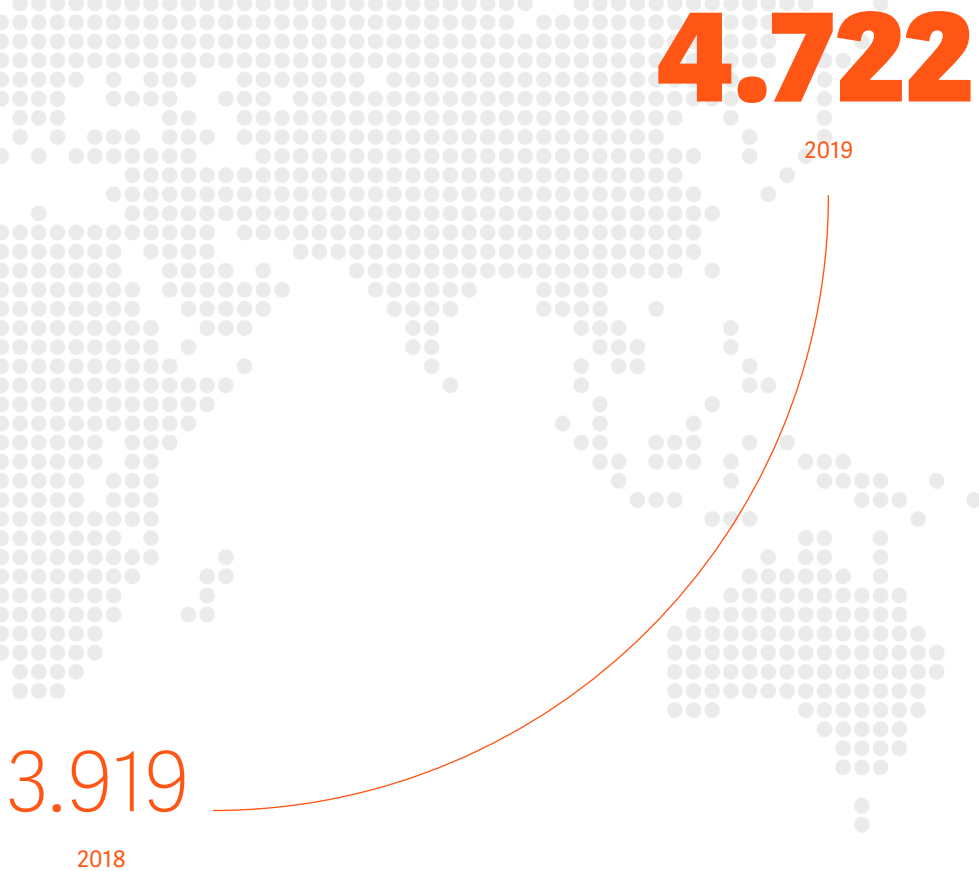
# Membership Growth



In 2019, Hostwriter's membership grew by more than 20%, from 3919 members to 4722 members. Our membership also continued to grow more diverse, **increasing the number of countries represented by our members from 138 to 152.**

**“Hostwriter is experiencing tremendous growth in members from all over the world. It’s been very rewarding for me personally to meet our new members at conferences we attend and to hear first-hand how they are using the network to make new contacts and collaborate on stories together. Their stories energize me.”**

*Bernadette Geyer, Head of Communications*



# HostWIRE Interactions

In its first full year of operation, the number of people on our HostWIRE chatroom has grown by more than 900% and the average monthly user visits has grown by more than 520%!

We now have more than 360 page views per day and an average of over 160 posts per month, including fellowship and funding opportunities, calls for pitches, requests for advice and posts by journalists seeking co-authors and collaborators.

The biggest drivers for visits to HostWIRE has been announcements about well-known funding opportunities, as well as calls for pitches by journalists and editors.

**900%**

Growth of members on  
HostWIRE

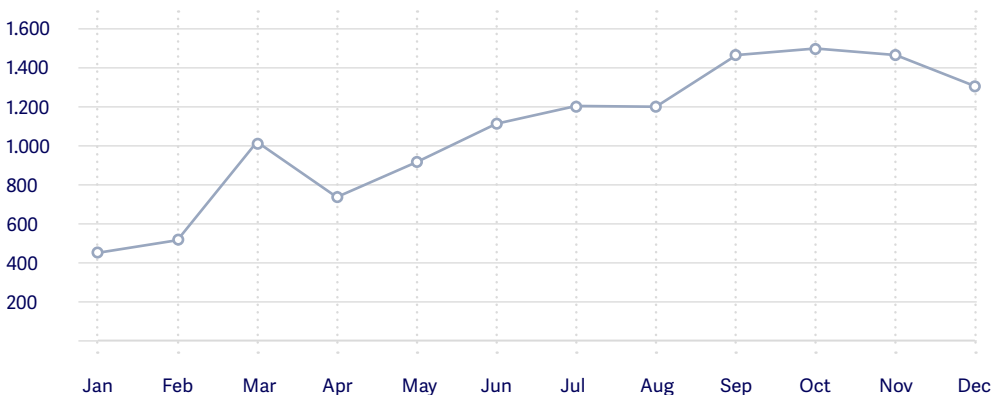
**160**

posts per month (avg.)

**“It has been heartwarming to see the Hostwriter community interacting and taking an active part in making our network so special! Every post on HostWIRE, every piece of advice shared, couch offered, and story co-authored has been a great reminder of why what we do is so important for the journalism community as a whole. The considerable increase in engagement over the past was year has also been incredibly inspiring and makes me proud. The positive and helpful energy that the Hostwriter community spreads reflects our mission of promoting more collaborative and cross-border journalism, and I can’t wait to see it spread more as our network grows.”**

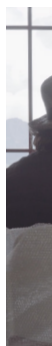
*Zahra Salah Uddin, Head of Community Engagement*

**Number of user visits on HostWIRE in 2019**





# Diversifying Our Membership



## Video Outreach Campaign

Meet Mercy Abang, Mariana Delgado Barón, Mohammad Bassiki, Priscila Pacheco and Riana Randrianarisoa – the Hostwriter Ambassadors featured in the series of multilingual videos (Arabic, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish) to boost Hostwriter membership for journalists in additional countries. The campaign resulted in the videos reaching 160,000+ people on social media and the addition of members from 11 countries where Hostwriter had not previously had any members.

*Videos reached more than 160,000 people on social media and are permanently hosted on our YouTube channel.*



## Conversation Editors on HostWIRE

Thanks to the addition of new language-specific message boards in the HostWIRE chatroom, more than 840 members who speak either Spanish or Arabic can now have meaningful exchanges with each other in their native language, broadening the connection opportunities for members who feel more comfortable communicating in their native language.

The Spanish-language message board is managed by Hostwriter Ambassador Mariana Delgado Barón, a Colombian journalist with a PhD in sociology. The Arabic-language message board is a collaboration between Hostwriter and the Syrian Investigations Unit, SIRAJ, that was founded by Hostwriter Ambassador Mohammad Bassiki.

Presentations for “How to Use HostWIRE” in Spanish, Arabic and English were added to the platform to help new users quickly learn to navigate the chatroom, so that they can easily start and join conversations with other members.



# Bringing Our Platform to a New Level



Recommend · 2



Mokhtar Alibrahim

Mohammad is one of the Syrian star in the field of journalism . Currently Bassiki is an inspired person for the new Syrian journalists . He is smart, witty and cooperative person.

## Mobile-First

For our five-year anniversary of being online, we relaunched the Hostwriter platform as a “mobile-first” web app to make it easier to access for all members.

The new streamlined and user-friendly layout enables smoother access for members who are living or working in areas with limited data connectivity.

Also, the platform is now set up as a responsive “web-app,” enabling members to add an icon on their smartphone home screen to quickly access our platform anywhere.

The relaunch as mobile-first was one of our big projects funded through the 2018 Google Impact Challenge Deutschland Jury Prize.

## Trust Features

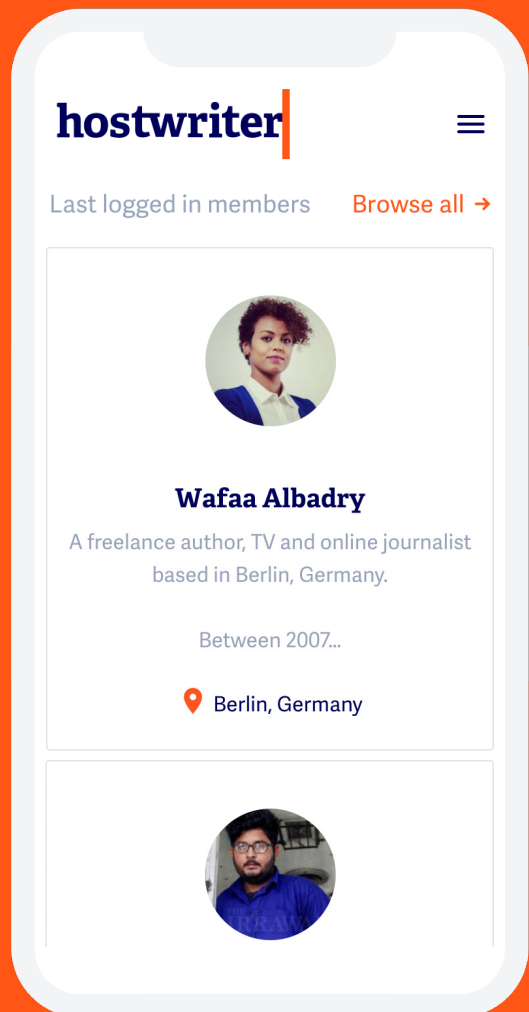
In the responses to our 2018 survey, members told us they wanted to be able to better know how they could trust the journalists on the Hostwriter platform. This issue was of utmost importance for us since any successful collaboration among journalists requires trust, and our main goal is to connect journalists through our platform.

Therefore, in 2019, we released trust features to help journalists feel comfortable reaching out to the other members on our platform.

One of the features introduced was the recommendations tool, where members can leave feedback on the profiles of journalists they have collaborated with or whom they would personally recommend.

**“The technology behind our new, mobile-first website is all open source because we deeply believe that sharing makes things better – also on the technology side of things. Now it is much easier to find colleagues from all over the world to collaborate with, and you don’t even need a computer for it.”**

*Katja Heitmann, CTO*



Cross-border  
Journalism as a  
**Method**

hostwriter

Cross-border  
Journalism as a  
**Mindset**

# Cross-Border Journalism Training and Workshops

Hostwriter developed a “Cross-Border Journalism as a Mindset” workshop as a companion to the “Cross-Border Journalism as a Method” training that is based on the method developed by our partner Brigitte Alfter from Arena for Journalism in Europe. Our “Mindset” workshop incorporates and expands upon topics introduced in Hostwriter’s book, *Unbias the News*.

In 2019, Hostwriter staff gave 15 trainings on the Cross-Border Journalism Method and Mindset to journalism groups from around Europe, including participants from Germany, India, Moldova, Poland and Ukraine. Presentations were organized by institutions such as Brost Institute, Culture Goes Europe (CGE)-Erfurt e.V., European Centre for Press and Media Freedom, n-Ost, Netzwerk Recherche, taz Panter Stiftung, The Times of India, Wechange, and others.

Additionally, for the first time, we were external lecturers at Hamburg University, teaching a seminar on “Cross-border Journalism” to students of the Erasmus Mundus Master’s Program. Tabea Grzeszyk and Bernadette Geyer taught a group of nine journalism students about both the method and mindset of cross-border journalism, and supported them as they worked in teams to create their very own cross-border stories as the main project for the seminar.

Hostwriter staff also participated in and presented at dozens of conferences and events this year, including the International Journalism Festival in Perugia, Italy, an Outriders event in Belarus, the 9th European Investigative Journalism Conference & Dataharvest in Belgium and Media Rumble in New Delhi, India, among others.

# Diversifying Revenue Streams

Hostwriter took steps to make the organization more sustainable in 2019. On HostWIRE, we have started offering “alumni group” partnerships for journalism organizations that would like to have a private chatroom for their own members within the Hostwriter network. Our first partnership is with the German investigative organization Netzwerk Recherche.

Another revenue stream is the growing number of paid trainings and workshops that Hostwriter staff presented (as mentioned earlier).

We are also looking at book sales of *Unbias the News*, which we will continue to promote on podcasts, at journalism events around the globe and through strategic outreach to potential reviewers.

In 2019, we set up a test case for a “Hostwriter for Publishers” program with MitOst e.V. Using Hostwriter, they pitched a call for local reporters who could produce portraits about participants of their Tandem Shaml – Cultural

Managers Exchange Program. This is a potential opportunity for Hostwriter to receive payments from publishers or organizations that would like to find reporters for specific projects and want to use our HostWIRE message board to reach Hostwriter’s journalist members.

Last but not least, we have reinvigorated Hostwriter’s online donations page, which features more options for people to donate at a wide variety of levels.

# Protecting the Digital Security of Our Platform

In 2019, we worked with an experienced digital security practitioner, Kaustubh Srikanth, to strengthen the security practices within Hostwriter and the network of journalists we support. This included the following:

- A security audit of the Hostwriter infrastructure that runs the Hostwriter platform, including hostwriter.org, HostWIRE and several other internal communication and collaboration services.
- A security audit of Hostwriter as an organization – including the technical, physical and administrative aspects – which led to strengthening security practices for the organization and staff members.
- A review of the various web assets that Hostwriter operates was conducted to revise the data collection, protection and privacy policies that Hostwriter uses to protect their members and online visitors.

Based on the recommendations from the digital security audits, Hostwriter has begun hosting the collaboration and communication tools used by the team on our own technical infrastructure.

In 2019, we migrated our data storage and internal communications to Nextcloud and Mattermost – open-source platforms that are run and maintained by Hostwriter on our own servers – thereby reducing our reliance on corporate, commercial platforms such as Google, Dropbox and Slack. This provides Hostwriter more agency on how and where sensitive data is stored, along with the ability to establish security standards that are more in line with the overall security protocols of the organization – particularly regarding the handling of this information.



# Presentations, Workshops & Panels 2019

**Netzwerk Recherche Grow Workshop.  
18 January.**

Hamburg, Germany

Olalla Tuñas Martinez presented about Hostwriter and community building for nonprofit journalists from around Europe who received Grow Fellowships from Netzwerk Recherche.

[www.netzwerkrecherche.org/growfellowship/](http://www.netzwerkrecherche.org/growfellowship/)

**UNCOVERED: Investigative Journalism for Europe. 31 January – 1 February.**

Berlin, Germany

Tabea Grzeszyk was on a panel, "How to Create an Enabling Environment for Investigative Journalism."

[www.ecpmf.eu/uncovered/](http://www.ecpmf.eu/uncovered/)

**Open Workshop @ Hostwriter – "How can journalists stay mentally fit to do their job?"  
21 February.**

Berlin, Germany

Hostwriter hosted in its Berlin office an open workshop by Jeanny Gering from the DART Center for Journalism and Trauma. The workshop was also live-streamed on the Hostwriter Facebook page.

[www.facebook.com/  
events/1164728890368882/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1164728890368882/)

**n-vestigate Webinar #3: Cross-Border Journalism as a Method. 27 February.**

Online

Bernadette Geyer presented about Hostwriter and the Cross-Border Journalism method as part of the webinar series by n-vestigate.

[www.facebook.com/  
events/343563453166794/](https://www.facebook.com/events/343563453166794/)

**Menell Media eXchange London.  
13–17 March.**

London, United Kingdom

Tabea participated in the event to change over control of the MMX organization a new group. She also provided input on journalism networks and engagement as an advisor.

[www.facebook.com/menellmediaexchange](https://www.facebook.com/menellmediaexchange)

**International Journalism Festival 2019.**  
**2–5 April.**

Perugia, Italy

All members of Hostwriter's staff participated in the conference. Hostwriter organized/Tabea hosted a panel – #UnbiasTheNews: How diversity can save quality journalism – featuring panelists Qian Sun (Hostwriter Ambassador), Wafaa Albadry (Hostwriter Ambassador), and Brigitte Alfter (Director, Arena for Journalism in Europe).

[www.journalismfestival.com/programme/2019/unbias.thenews-how-diversity-can-save-quality-journalism](http://www.journalismfestival.com/programme/2019/unbias.thenews-how-diversity-can-save-quality-journalism)

**Outriders Meetup in Minsk: The power of context in foreign reporting. 11 April.**

Minsk, Belarus

Tina presented about Hostwriter's *Unbias the News* book project.

[www.facebook.com/events/1154793641364717/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1154793641364717/)

**Unframed Festival. 27 April.**

Berlin, Germany

Tina presented on Hostwriter's *Unbias the News* book project and ran a workshop titled, "The View from Nowhere Must Be Destroyed: How to Unbias the News."

[www.unframedfestival.de/program](http://www.unframedfestival.de/program)

**re:publica. 7 May.**

Berlin, Germany

Tabea was on a panel, "Doing Utopia! Setting the stage for an innovative media future."

<https://19.mediaconventionberlin.com/de/session/doing-utopia-setting-stage-innovative-media-future>

**European Investigative Journalism Conference/Dataharvest. 16-19 May.**

Mechelen, Belgium

Tabea spoke on three panels and moderated a fourth: "Networking the Networks" (panelist); "How to apply for work grants – meet the right funder" (panelist); "Analysing diversity in the newsroom" (panelist); "Unbias the News" (moderator).

<https://dataharvest.eu>



**Mezhyhirya Fest 2019. 7–9 June.**

Kiev, Ukraine

Tina was on a panel, “The Craft: Journalism in the Digital Age,” moderated by Jakub Parusinski. She also gave a presentation titled, “Collaboration is Key.”

<http://mezhyhiryafest.com>

**Abenteuer Recherche: Netzwerk Recherche Jahreskonferenz. 14–15 June.**

Hamburg, Germany

Tabea was on the jury for the 2019 Grow Stipendium competition “Fünf Minuten, fünf Ideen: Wie wir den Journalismus besser machen möchten.”

<https://nr19.sched.com/event/N2ZK/funf-minuten-funf-ideen-wir-wir-den-journalismus-besser-machen-moechten-wettbewerb-um-die-grow-stipendien-2019>

**Wechange Conference: Civil Society 4.0. 18 June.**

Berlin, Germany

Bernadette presented two workshops to groups of journalists and civil society organizations regarding cross-border journalism as a method and about the *Unbias the News* book.

<https://wechange.de/group/civil-society-40>

**Media Rumble. 2–3 August.**

New Delhi, India

Tina was on a panel, “Age of Collaborative Journalism,” and presented about Hostwriter, cross-border collaboration and *Unbias the News*.

<http://themediarumble.com>

**Speaking Tour of India. 5–14 August.**

Various Cities, India

Tina traveled around India speaking about Hostwriter, cross-border journalism and *Unbias the News*. Sites and events included The Times of India, CNN Roundtable, The Wire, Swainiti Initiative on Fighting Misinformation through Collaboration, Observer Research Foundation, iLead Media School, Consumer Unity & Trust Society, The American Center, Countering Disinformation Initiative, Sacred Heart College and at the School of Communication and Management Studies.

**Campfire Festival. 31 August – 1 September.**

Düsseldorf, Germany

Tabea participated in a book reading, launching the German version of *Unbias the News: Warum Journalismus Vielfalt braucht*, and spoke at the non-profit tent.

<https://campfirefestival.org>

**Südostasien-Workshop 2019. 12 September.**

Berlin, Germany

Bernadette gave a training on Hostwriter and cross-border journalism for a group of journalists from Myanmar, Malaysia and Cambodia. The workshop was sponsored by TAZ Panther Stiftung.

<https://taz.de/Suedostasien-Workshop-2018/!167038/> (about 2018 program, site not updated)

**Drupal & Friends Barcamp. 14–15 September.**

Schwerin, Germany

Katja presented about Hostwriter from a technical perspective at this event.

<https://dfsn19.drupalcamp.de>

**#DecodingMedia Camp. 20 September.**

Berlin, Germany

Bernadette gave an extended training about Hostwriter, as well as cross-border journalism as a method and a mindset, for a group of students from Germany and Ukraine. The event was coordinated by Culture Goes Europe (CGE)-Erfurt e.V.

<https://www.cge-erfurt.org>

**Global Investigative Journalism Conference 2019. 24–29 September.**

Hamburg, Germany

Hostwriter launched its *Unbias the News* book at the conference with a book table and a reading/discussion aboard the MS Stubnitz. Tabea spoke on the panel, “Exiled Media: Collaborating with Non-Exile Media.”

<https://gijc2019.org>

**n-ost Media Conference 2019:  
Off the Beaten Track. 3–5 October.**

Chisinau, Moldova

Tabea gave a workshop on cross-border journalism and Hostwriter at the conference.

<https://www.n-ost.org/100-medienkonferenz-2019-off-the-beaten-track>

**Civitates Roundtable. 7-8 October.**

Brussels, Belgium

Tabea was invited to contribute to a new pooled fund intended to support investigative journalism in Europe.

<https://civitates-eu.org>

**European Journalism Training Association Conference. 17-18 October.**

Dortmund, Germany

Tabea and Brigitte Alfter (Arena for Journalism in Europe) gave the Friday keynote address, "Towards Cross-Border Projects in Journalism Education."

<https://brost.ifj.tu-dortmund.de/projekte/ejta-teachers-conference-2019>

**Mundus Journalism Seminar. 25 October & 1 November.**

Hamburg, Germany

Tabea and Bernadette developed a seminar module "Cross-Border Journalism" and taught international journalism students in Hamburg University's Mundus program.

**Inspiration Day. 26 October.**

Berlin, Germany

Tabea presented about Hostwriter at this event, which was sponsored by Deine Korrespondentin.

[www.deine-korrespondentin.de/events](http://www.deine-korrespondentin.de/events)

**Utopie Parcours / Alex TV. 29 October.**

Potsdam, Germany

Tabea gave the keynote address and served as a jury member for the 1st "eine Medienutopie für Berlin-Brandenburg."

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=0WVKEHQq1c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0WVKEHQq1c)

**Unbias the News Meetup and Reading at be'kech. 5 November.**

Berlin, Germany

Wafaa Albadry, Qian Sun and Asma Abidi read from *Unbias the News* and held a discussion at the be'kech coworking space.

<https://unbiasthenews.org/unbias-the-news-meet-up-at-bekesh>

**UNESCO im Gespräch: Spotlight Europa:  
Demokratische Grundrechte in Gefahr. 14  
November.**

Vienna, Austria

Tabea spoke about cross-border journalism on a panel that included Kathrin Röggla (vice president, Akademie der Künste), Naif Bezwan (guest researcher, Institute for International Law and International Relations at the University of Graz), Michael Lysander Fremuth (director, Ludwig Boltzmann Instituts für Menschenrechte und Universität Wien) and Andrea Thilo (freelance journalist, presenter and trainer).

[https://radiokulturhaus.orf.at/artikel/662831/  
UNESCO-im-Gespraech](https://radiokulturhaus.orf.at/artikel/662831/UNESCO-im-Gespraech)

**Cross-Border Journalism Method Presenta-  
tion to Ukrainian Journalists. 18 November.**

Berlin, Germany

Bernadette gave a training about Hostwriter, plus cross-border journalism as a method and a mindset for a group of Ukrainian journalists, organized by the European Centre for Press and Media Freedom (ECPMF). The event was held in the Hostwriter office.

**Outriders Summit 2019. 20-23 November.**

Warsaw, Poland

Bernadette attended the Outriders Summit and gave a workshop on cross-border journalism as a method and presented about *Unbias the News*.

<https://outriders.network/summit/2019>

**Vielfältig statt einfältig-Konferenz djv  
(#djvielfalt.de). 30 November.**

Hannover, Germany

Tabea and Zahra Salah Uddin set up a table to sell *Unbias the News* books at the conference.

<https://djvielfalt.de>

**AmCham Female Founders Award  
Ceremony. 4 December.**

Berlin, Germany

Tabea received an Honorable Mention for the Female Founders Award, sponsored by the American Chamber of Commerce-Germany.

[www.amcham.de/events/female-  
founders-award](http://www.amcham.de/events/female-founders-award)

**Brost Institute / Dortmund. 6 December.**

Dortmund, Germany

Tabea gave a seminar on Cross-Border Collaborative Journalism to a group of university students.

**News Impact Summit - Munich. 6 December.**  
Munich, Germany

Tina gave a “lightning talk” on *Unbias the News*.

[www.newsimpact.io/summits/news-impact-summit-munich#programme](http://www.newsimpact.io/summits/news-impact-summit-munich#programme)

**Mundus Journalism Students Field Trip to Hostwriter. 6 December.**  
Berlin, Germany

Zahra offered a presentation and Q&A session about Hostwriter for journalism students from the Mundus program at Hamburg University. The event was hosted in the Hostwriter office.

**Berichten über AfD und Co. 16 December.**  
Berlin, Germany

Tabea was part of a panel organized by the German Union of Journalists, talking about reporting on right-wing populism.

<https://dju.verdi.de/service/veranstaltungen/++co++bdd4546c-0ad9-11ea-b4a6-525400f67940>



Bernadette teaching at Hamburg University. Tina speaking at Mezhyhrya Fest 2019.







*Tabea Grzeszyk, Katja Heitmann and Zahra Salah Uddin at the Prize Ceremony for the Female Founders Award from AmCham Deutschland in the Microsoft offices in Berlin, 4.12.2019; © Jan Zappner*



# Thank You!

The whole Hostwriter team would like to thank its 2019 supporters and project partners, without whom none of this would have been possible to achieve:



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