

## **AHJ Ethical charter**

The Humanitarian Aid and Journalism Association (AHJ) declares herewith the values that it defends as they have been approved by the members and the founders of AHJ. Beneficiaries of AHJ's activities as well as the staff, the Board members, service providers and partners are invited to read and respect the values defended in this charter.

AHJ upholds freedom of expression, freedom of creation and equality between women and men.

AHJ upholds that everyone, alone or in community with others, whether they are victims of war or discrimination, refugees or from an ethnic minority, has the right to free and pluralistic information that contributes to the full development of their cultural identity. This right, which may be exercised regardless of frontiers, comprises in particular:

- a. The freedom to seek, receive and impart information;
- b. The right to participate in pluralist information, in language(s) of one's choice, to contribute to its production or its dissemination by way of all information and communication technologies;
- c. The right to respond to erroneous information concerning cultures, with full respect of the rights expressed in the Fribourg Declaration of Cultural Rights.

AHJ upholds that everyone, alone or in community with others, whether they are victims of war or discrimination, refugees or from an ethnic minority, has the right throughout one's lifespan, alone or in community with others, to education and training that, in response to fundamental

<sup>1</sup>The expression « cultural identity » is understood as the sum of all cultural references through which a person, alone or in community with others, defines or constitutes oneself, communicates and wishes to be recognized in one's dignity, educational needs, contribute to the free and full development of one's cultural identity while respecting the rights of others and cultural diversity.

In the conflict zones, where human distress provokes severe tensions between men and women, AHJ intensifies its efforts to support women and children in defending their human, civil and social rights, particularly when these have been denied, such as in the context of sexual violence.

AHJ supports the initiatives of civil society which defend these same rights and which are non-political, non-denominational and conscious of the challenges we face for our common future.

AHJ adheres to the highest ethical norms such as the respect for human rights, the respect for the State of law in all countries, and the respect of each and every human being as a unique individual in their own right. AHJ has defined sanctions against offenders. AHJ has defined appropriate actions to prevent situations of conflict of interest (as described in the procedures of project management).

AHJ's action is in line with the principles of policy agendas and texts of references of which the most important are: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Fribourg Declaration of Cultural Rights, The Geneva Convention 1951, The Convention on the Rights of the Child.

AHJ defends the professional ethical charter of journalists of the French national Syndicate of journalists.

Date:	
Place:	
Participant's full name:	Signature: