



Quarterly Monitoring on Incidents Against Journalists in Cambodia

05

Incidents Recorded

Arrest
(1 case)

Harassment
(1 case)

Intimidation
(2 cases)

Online harassment
(1 case)



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From October to December 2025, CCIM continued its monitoring and documentation incidents targeting journalists in Cambodia. This incident record remains an important tool for tracking and responding to ongoing harassment against journalists and media workers. Across several provinces in Cambodia, recent incidents have highlighted ongoing challenges faced by journalists while reporting on matters of public interest, including protests, public order, and security-related issues. These cases, occurring in different local contexts, collectively illustrate patterns of pressure, intimidation, and restrictions that affect the media's ability to operate freely and independently.



CCIM recorded ongoing 5 incidents

These incidents affected 10 professional journalists and citizen reporters (two women). The incidents include (01) arrest, (02) intimidation, (01) online harassment, and (01) harassment. Such patterns reflect ongoing threats to press freedom and emphasize the urgent need for stronger safeguards and an environment where journalists across the country can work freely and safely.

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Key incidents included

1

Case one: an online journalist, from AK News, encountered hostile behavior by the deputy governor of Kandal provinces while trying to conduct an interview with the official. The incident happened when the online journalist was covering a citizen protest over a land dispute near the National Road 6A. A video circulating on Facebook shows the deputy governor physically pushing and verbally intimidating the reporter when he attempted to interview the official for the solutions to the conflicts. This behavior disrupted reporting on the protest and limited public access to official explanations, contributing to an atmosphere of fear that discourages independent journalism at the local level.

2

Case two: the incident involved an online journalist from Question Media in Kampot province after he reported on street cluttering caused by informal vendors around the Kampot Market, which caused traffic congestion and interrupted public order around the area. The video shows local police were trying to escort the reporter to the police station for questioning. The police did not have a legal warrant to bring the journalist in for questioning and stated only that it was carried out under instructions from the Governor of the Kampot Provincial Administration. Although no formal charges were reported, the informal nature of the request raised concerns about transparency and the proper procedures when authorities engage with journalists over their reporting.



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Key incidents included

3

Case Three: a female reporter faced offensive online comments after reporting on the tensions along Cambodian and Thai border. Her video was alleged to reveal the location of Cambodian military camp and refugees camps that were struck by Thai military forces. Following her post, she was accused by online users of spreading sensitive information and attempted to link her reporting to the attack. She received many negative comments from online users after the post. She was pressured to accept responsibility, despite relying on publicly available information and official sources, including statements from the Ministry of Defense. The journalist denied all allegations and refused to accept the allegations case, emphasizing that her work was conducted in the public interest and underscoring the need to protect journalists, particularly women, from intimidation and harassment.

4

Case four: an online journalist from CPN News, reporting from Banteay Meanchey province, was detained by the military police for allegedly providing information to foreigners during the Cambodia–Thailand border dispute. He has been held in detention since his arrest on mid-December 2025, pending a formal trial on his case. This has raised concern among media observers due to its national security framing and the prolonged nature of his detention.



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Key incidents included

5

Case five: the incident is linked to border tensions: six reporters from local media outlets were briefly stopped by Cheung Tien commune, Oddar Meanchey Province, police while documenting conditions near a bombing site and interviewing displaced civilians. Police escorted the journalists to the commune police post, citing suspicion of espionage due to the absence of an official mission letter. On 01st August 2025, the Ministry of Information issued a guideline instructing all journalists, media practitioners in the information and audio-visual sector, and all users of social media, to request permission letter to access the conflict zone. After reviewing their photographs and questioning them, authorities allowed all six journalists to leave. In addition, police officers requested that journalists cooperate and coordinate with authorities before entering areas affected by border conflicts.



To strengthen journalist safety, CCIM will continue monitoring violations against journalists and media workers and offer legal assistance to those facing risks. You can report incidents or request legal support through our hotline at **060 50 50 50**