

**RESOLUTION OF THE IAB 45 GENERAL ASSEMBLY
CRIMES AGAINST JOURNALISTS**

WHEREAS:

The increase in murders and acts of intimidation against journalists, representing one of the greatest threats to the exercise of freedom of expression and the free flow of ideas, information and opinions.

CONSIDERING:

That the murders of journalists have become a permanent practice of organized crime and drug cartels to silence journalists and media reporting about the serious scourge of these antisocial and clandestine activities.

That the threats and intimidation against journalists by governments and officials intolerant to criticism and public scrutiny, have consolidated as a common practice in some countries, with serious risk to life and physical safety of journalists who are exposed, even by the Heads of State themselves.

That Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights enshrines the right of every individual to freedom of opinion and expression; while Article 13 of the Pact of San José, provides that everyone has the right to freedom of thought and expression.

That the actions aiming to intimidate or silence media and journalists are a serious violation of international treaties which puts at risk the whole society, while limiting access to information and restrict the exercise of journalistic research, essential for the exercise of democracy.

THE 45TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTING - IAB - MEETING IN SAN SALVADOR, REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR, RESOLVES:

To condemn all forms of coercion, intimidation and attacks against journalists and media and demand the States to adopt the necessary measures to eradicate this type of criminal behavior.

To fight against the impunity of these serious cases, demanding a proper investigation of the facts and punishment of those responsible.

To urge parliamentarians from the three Americas to legislate in this area, establishing special penalties and punishments for such crimes.

San Salvador, October 14, 2015.