



Annual Report 2019

Striving for a smarter media environment

Contents

The Baltic Centre for Media Excellence	3
Foreword from the Executive Director	5
Media Training	7
Media Literacy	9
Media Innovations	13
Eastern Partnership Programme	14
Public Events	17
Media Research	19
Finances and Accountability	21
Main Objectives for 2020	23
Organisation and Contacts	24

Committed to creating resilient, inclusive and tech-savvy media, and knowledgeable and inquisitive audiences in the Baltics and beyond.

The Baltic Centre for Media Excellence (BCME) is an independent non-profit organisation, founded in November 2015. From its birth as a grassroots initiative of the Baltic journalistic community, BCME has grown into a powerful hub for smart journalism in the Baltics and beyond. It promotes professional growth, media intelligence and critical thinking, and strives for positive change in journalism and the communities it serves.

BCME focuses on the needs of independent media outlets in the region and provides them with tools essential for sustainable development: hands-on vocational training and mentorships in journalism and media management, quality media market research and audience analysis, as well as meaningful coordination of the donor community involved in media support across the region.

We advance tech-savvy professionalism, resilience and inclusiveness among media creators, but BCME is equally focused on educating and empowering media audiences. By promoting media literacy and critical thinking, especially among those groups most vulnerable to disinformation and propaganda messages, BCME contributes to establishing knowledgeable and inquisitive audiences and a demand for quality journalism.

This report covers the main activities of the BCME in all these core areas during 2019. The latest information about BCME projects is available on the centre's website – www.bcme.eu



The fourth year of BCME was a turning point for us in terms of numbers of established partnerships across the Baltics and beyond, as well as record numbers of innovative training and media development projects. We are proud of the array of innovations and experiments introduced by our partners, which have especially enriched public service broadcasting and regional media outlets in Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia.

The Baltic media market, being small and vulnerable, is more sensitive to global digital changes, but thanks to the range of new projects we have developed, we have been able to take highly targeted and well-considered actions to address specific media challenges, including those in areas with a large presence of minority communities. Media literacy, one of the priorities of BCME, has become a key part of our series of journalism projects and innovations aimed particularly at younger audiences.

BCME has become one of the most influential media NGOs in the Baltics thanks not only to its activities in the media development field, but also to its strong voice on issues that are important to journalists in the Baltics and beyond. We have shown our ability to react rapidly to changes in the industry by organising public events on topics such as public service media governance, disinformation and election security. BCME experts and members of staff are regular speakers at various international conferences, forums, workshops and other events. The centre has increased its reputation as a provider of in-depth research and data on the media environment in the Baltics.

The number of international partnerships and consortiums created shows that the centre is spreading its expertise well beyond the Baltics. Another BCME success story is its increasing competence in EaP countries, especially in terms of providing the donor community and media networks with high quality pieces of research and newsletters, as well as becoming a mediator between the media and donor communities.

I have been working with BCME for several years and all this time I admire their professionalism. This is a team that clearly defines goals and confidently moves towards their achievement. Their attention to details and the care they take to ensure that all project participants get the most out of their trainings is incredible. Having a high degree of creativity and communication, they show exceptional flexibility when working with a large number of people and this gives a really positive result. As a trainer, I always feel quite comfortable and protected when working with BCME professionals.
Alexander Grigoryan, media consultant, cameraman and editor (GE)

In the BCME program, we have been able to develop our editorial expertise to a very large extent. From traditional media to new trends in social media. When planning training, we always get the solutions that are right for us, which makes them especially effective in our eyes. Special mention should also be made of the professionalism of the experts involved in the training. We have learned new approaches and have partially implemented them. Most of all, I am pleased that I am already seeing positive results.
Gunnar Siiner, Editor in Chief of "Saarte Hääl" (EE)

Alexander Girogyan (GE), media consultant, editor and cameraman (GE) working with Latvian television cameramen, Riga, 2019

The year 2019 has been extremely intense and successful for BCME media training. We have doubled the number of training sessions and reached the highest number of participants ever. BCME has expanded its strong and lasting relationships with the newsrooms of both the public service media and regional media outlets in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Summarising the most common training trends in 2019 across the newsrooms, we came up with the hashtags #digitaltools #multimedia #monetisation #innovative #mobilestorytelling and #audienceresearch.

Making the changes sustainable

Over the years, BCME has become convinced that a specific approach, tailored to the needs of each individual media organisation, is the best way to facilitate adaptation to new circumstances, and has a broader positive impact on the industry as a whole. Therefore, BCME seminars are mainly held in media newsrooms, which ensures that as many journalists as possible are present and the training has a lasting effect.

In 2019, BCME continued the in-house and needs-based training that is highly appreciated among journalists and media managers. At the same time, in response to changes in media ecosystems, we developed new, thematic seminars on topics such as multimedia coverage of business and economic or international news. These sessions were attended by a variety of leading media journalists, creating an experience-sharing network.

Regional trendsetters group

Cooperation with the world's leading media development organisation "Internews" allowed us to take training opportunities to new heights. We have been working closely with ten regional media outlets to create a "trendsetters group" comprising "Kurzemes Vārds" (LV), "Alūksnes/Malienas Ziņas" (LV), "Vidzemes TV" (LV), Chayka (LV), "Edasi" (EE), "Põhjarannik" (EE), "Saarte Hääl" (EE), "Etaplius" (LT), "Radio FM99" (LT) and "Tauragės kurjeris" (LT) – an informal group of like-minded newsrooms interested in sharing and adopting new techniques, tools, and approaches to content production and distribution. Five of the most motivated outlets had an embedded editor for half a year who worked with them on a day-to-day basis, with a series of workshops provided in parallel. This resulted in a considerable increase in quality and in experimentation with new storytelling and content distribution techniques. Many of the trendsetters were working on the launch of new websites.

Mobile storytelling and social media monetisation most in demand

With the rapidly growing use of mobile devices, one of the most widely requested and relevant training needs expressed by media outlets was mobile storytelling. With the help of internationally acclaimed trainers, various newsrooms had the opportunity to learn new techniques for mobile content production and sharing. The topics included writing original mobile-first scripts, telling a story through images, retrofitting footage for use on social media, conducting callouts and using readers' stories, as well

as building a relationship with the audience on social media.

Another relevant training need identified across the newsrooms was for workshops on social media monetisation. Seminars equipped many regional media outlets with an understanding of the main principles of content distribution, platforms and formats in order to help newsrooms harmonise their actions across paper and web formats, make advertising better and more targeted, and create relevant content for each platform.

The BCME training program met current editorial needs and provided a flexible approach to our situation. The lecturers were inspiring, we got a new vision and practical support that we could immediately apply. We have begun working actively with social networks, analyzing data, and using technology tools to design new ways how to provide information to visitors of our portal. Changes are slow, as it is not easy to change your mind, but feedback from the editorial staff on this year's seminars is the most positive.

Anda Pūce, Editor of "Kurzemes Vārds" (LV)

Training for Russian-language media

Alongside all the activities mentioned above, we also made special efforts to support cooperation among Russian-language journalists in order to foster a united, diverse and professional media landscape in the Baltics. Russian-language journalists from "Vīru Prospekt" (EE), "Chayka" and "Latgales Laiks" (LV) and "TTS.lt" (LT) received an extensive overview on digital change management from experienced trainers from the Nordic countries and acquired essential skills for creating content for multimedia and digital platforms and for evolving data and content visualisation tools, thereby increasing their audience reach. The workshops had an online follow-up in order to prepare the ground for deeper digital strategy mentoring.

The Year in Numbers

545 workshop and mentoring session participants
370 journalists and editors trained
120 workshops and mentoring sessions delivered
23 mentors and trainers

"Pilna Doma" – media literacy for high school students

The media literacy project for high school students, "Pilna doma" (Full Thought), successfully completed its third season – with new activities and more participants than ever before. Widely acclaimed lectures by well-known Latvian journalists were typically held in high schools, but anyone who was interested could take part in specially developed online media literacy tests.

In autumn 2019, journalist-led lectures were held in 46 Latvian schools, with more than 2,200 pupils and 100 teachers attending; all those figures are much higher than in previous years. About one third of the classes took place in Russian-language schools. During the lectures, journalists shared their professional experience and encouraged students to develop critical thinking by assessing the media content provided. Everyone had the opportunity to test their skills afterwards by completing the online media literacy tests designed specifically for this project. In an attractive format, test takers were able to ascertain their ability to recognise misleading messages, evaluate information sources critically, and decide how they would act if they were journalists and produced media content.



Janis Siksnis Acting Executive Director
Fotogrāfs: Ģirts Raģelis

Young Storyteller Clubs – schools for young journalists

To help young people who want to become journalists themselves, BCME established four media literacy hubs called Young Storyteller Clubs, run by local media outlets. In Latvia, the clubs were hosted by the most popular news website DELFI and the regional newspaper "Kurzemnieks". In Lithua-



nia, the hosting partner was a popular, innovative online television channel called “Laisves TV” (Freedom TV). In Estonia, the club was organised by the Estonian public broadcaster ERR. The Young Storyteller Club operated as a semester-long after-school activity, providing expertise and mentorship in critical media consumption and contemporary media production, according to a curriculum specially developed by BCME media literacy expert Solvita Denisa-Liepniece. Following the guidelines, local journalists and editors shared with students the basics of quality journalism, journalistic genres and multimedia production skills, combining this with hands-on practical exercises and specific media projects.

Media literacy campaigns in the public broadcasters

A special BCME activity was the promotion of media literacy content projects in the Baltic public media broadcasters to raise awareness among the general audience.

In Latvia, attracting unprecedented audiences and achieving a high level of audience engagement, Latvian Television (LTV) successfully implemented an online media literacy game show called “Internet Academy”. The game show was developed for younger audiences and distributed via the platform 16+, an LTV youth channel on YouTube. Two teams of online influencers who are popular among young people in Latvia competed against each other in a quiz on media literacy, covering data protection, checking of information sources, use of new technologies, and more. The live shows and videos on the YouTube channel were accompanied by interviews on the public radio youth channel Pieci.lv and by articles on the website.

In Lithuania, the public broadcaster LRT successfully completed a comprehensive cross-platform media literacy campaign, X-RAY OF ELECTIONS, aiming to increase voters’ critical thinking skills ahead of the three elections in Lithuania – the presidential elections, the European parliamentary elections and the municipal council and mayoral elections. The main topics covered included the information war, cyber security, populism, disinformation on Russian TV channels, how to understand your political ideology, entertainment and politics, visual verification, psychology of politics, conspiracy theories, and the power of memes. LRT statistics show that audience involvement and interaction was very high.

The Year in Numbers

“Pilna doma” 2019 – 46 schools participated, 2200 students and 100 teachers took part

Media literacy game show “Internet Academy”, 2019, Photo credit: LTV

We have a great collaboration with the Baltic Centre for Media Excellence. The Centre takes into account our needs and also recommends its own vision. These synergies make us even better, more professional. The largest and most serious project in 2019 was the "Diagnosis – Cancer" research. This was our first large-scale multimedia project to create specific content for all platforms. We were advised by Zoya Charles and Alexander Grigoryan. We created about 50 content units and this project caused resonance throughout Latvia.
Iveta Elksne, Head of News Service, Latvian Television (LV)

Public Service Broadcasters' Multimedia Platform Development

Our multimedia platform development programme for public service broadcasters provided an extraordinary opportunity by means of production support along with mentoring to create multimedia stories implementing innovative approaches in workflow and content planning as well as production process.

As a result, Latvian Television came up with an extremely successful and socially relevant project "Diagnosis: Cancer", setting new standards for multimedia production and propelling public discussion on cancer treatment and the work of the whole Latvian healthcare system. This complex multiplatform undertaking, aimed at creating a blueprint for future multimedia projects, was conceived and developed under the guidance of experienced trainers Zoya Charles and Alexander Grigoryan. The end result came in a multitude of formats – TV news stories, interviews, long-reads, investigative shows, social media content and televised discussions, as well as a dedicated website – discussing people's personal experiences with the disease, providing explanatory content about different types of cancer, and analysing the effectiveness of state services in cancer treatment. The teamwork focusing on a single topic in a wide variety of linear and digital formats was an unprecedented practice for LTV, and, as a result of this work, LTV management decided to increase the funding for digital content and investigative projects.

The Estonian public broadcasting company, with the help of on-site assistance from BCME, developed a media literacy-related project called "Smart Life" about the issue of responsible consumption of digital information. The content, using a wide range of platforms and formats, was developed in collaboration with researchers, therapists and media professionals, and, in addition to journalistic content, included a set of tips and tools relating to safe digital consumption, cyber bullying and fake news, aimed at both teenagers and their parents.

"Funds4Media Baltic edition"

To promote opportunities for media organisations to gain support for new, innovative projects, BCME launched a new service – a monthly electronic newsletter, "Funds4Media Baltic ed", which collates information on media development support offered by international donor institutions. The monthly newsletter, which provides information on training, content production grants, competitions and other promotions, quickly gained media acclaim. More and more journalists from all three Baltic countries are now following "Funds4Media Baltic ed" publications on the BCME Facebook account and the Baltic.media website. The Baltic edition follows on from the successful newsletter with similar content, "Funds4Media", which BCME has been distributing to the media in EU Eastern Partnership countries since 2018.

The Year in Numbers

176 media professionals subscribe to "Funds4Media Baltic ed."

Public discussion "Tackling Disinformation – Moving Towards more Censored or more Responsible Online Space", Riga, April 2019.
Copyrights: BCME

BCME intensified its efforts and began new activities in line with the programme's long-term goal to increase the impact of donor institutions by supporting independent mass media organisations in European Union Eastern Partnership states. To achieve this goal, the programme has introduced activities that facilitate more intensive communication and coordination between public and private donors on one hand, and between mass media and media development organisations on the other hand.

Research on Media Needs in EaP countries

BCME updated and published the comprehensive cross-regional study "Gap Analysis of Independent Media Skills and Needs in the Eastern Partnership" (GA). The GA consists of six country reports, a regional overview of findings and recommendations, and a policy paper with recommendations. This paper provides research-based evidence and analysis to assist donors and other stakeholders in taking decisions and setting priorities regarding the types of interventions and funding modalities needed to strengthen independent media in the countries of the Eastern Partnership.

The gap analysis research was launched and discussed with a wider audience of media professionals and media donors on 20 November 2019 in Tbilisi, Georgia. The research results and recommendations were also presented and discussed among media donors and professionals in Kyiv, Ukraine; in Riga, Latvia; and in Stockholm, Sweden. Dissemination of research results will also continue across Europe in 2020.



Ms. Nouneh Sarkissian, Managing Director, Media Initiatives Center, Armenia. Making comments during the opening event of the research "Gap Analyses of Independent Media Skills and Needs in the Eastern Partnership" in Tbilisi, Georgia, November 2019. Copyrights: MDF

"Funds4Media" Newsletter

BCME has continued the production and distribution of the monthly electronic newsletter "Funds4Media". The newsletter summarises funding opportunities for media organisations and journalists from the EaP states. It provides media representatives and journalists with direct, easy-to-understand and up-to-date information about offers of support from donors. Currently there are 810 subscribers receiving the newsletter via our e-mail list and more than 9,000 recipients receiving it via the e-mail lists and other communication channels of BCME partner organisations across the Eastern Partnership region.

"Donors Performance Report"

In April 2019, BCME launched a research report entitled "Donors Performance Report" which is a study evaluating and reflecting on the work of media donors from the perspective of their beneficiaries – media outlets and media development organisations. The goal of the report was to help improve the performance of donors, the efficiency of their grant issuing, communication with beneficiaries, and awareness of and responsiveness to beneficiaries' needs. BCME invited 153 national media development organisations and independent media representatives from the six EaP countries to respond to a questionnaire, which it then analysed, producing this report.

"Media Developers Network"

In September 2019, the EaP Programme launched the the "Media Developers Network" project to contribute to the ongoing process of strengthening evidence-based approaches to designing relevant and impactful media assistance programmes in the Eastern Partnership countries. The purpose of the project is to assess the current capacities of the media development NGOs from the EaP countries, identify gaps in their current project focus and activities, and provide tailored recommendations on improving collaboration between the media developers and Western donors that support media assistance initiatives. BCME has conducted 6 focus groups across all 6 EaP countries, convening 43 media development organisations. The projects will continue in 2020 with production of country reports, dissemination of findings, and impact building activities.

"Database of Independent Mass Media in EaP States"

The project entitled "Database of Independent Mass Media in EaP States" has continued in 2019 by performing an update of the current situation. This electronic database provides an insight into which of the regional and national-scale media organisations can be regarded as independent. The database has been created based upon specific criteria for assessing the independence of mass media, which allow entries to be filtered and categorised.

As in previous years, in 2019, BCME representatives and experts from the EaP Programme participated in media development and donor coordination and networking events in various EU and EaP countries, presenting the research conducted as part of the EaP programme and the recommendations identified. Our representatives have travelled multiple times to Brussels, Chisinau, London, Minsk, Kyiv, Stockholm, Tbilisi, Vilnius and Yerevan.



Jānis Siksnis (BCME), Cristina Andersson (Airwise Oy), Arta Ģīga (TV producer), Raivis Skadiņš (Tilde) and Konstantīns Kuzikovs (Delfi) discussing on artificial intelligence and media in LAMPA festival in Cēsis, June 28 (Photo credit – Alfrēds Ulmanis).

Public Service Media Forum in Vilnius

Public service media (PSM) is one of the cornerstones of a democratic state and responsible civil society – with this conviction, BCME organised the second Public Service Media Forum entitled “Public Trust of Smart Journalism”, held on April 10 and 11 in Vilnius, Lithuania. On the first day of the forum, representatives of leading European broadcasters, media experts and decision makers discussed the role of public service media in maintaining quality journalism standards, how public broadcasters can tackle disinformation on social networks, and what financial and governance mechanisms should be in place to ensure PSM development and editorial independence. On the second day, representatives from the Baltic and Scandinavian PSM organisations presented and shared their experience in developing innovative content formats.

Discussions on the proposed Latvian Public Service Media Governance Law

Taking an active part in solving Latvia’s public service media problems, BCME organised a discussion series entitled “Can Latvia Afford Strong Public Service Media?” held on April 4 and December 13, which followed the parliamentary work on a proposed new law on public service media governance. Discussions on the content development of and financial provision for Latvian Radio (LR) and Latvian Television were attended by the leaders of both broadcasters, politicians responsible for the sector, officials and media experts. To emphasise the strong role of PSM in the development of a democratic state, BCME commissioned LR and LTV audience research to demonstrate people’s trust in the public service media, while also identifying issues that need to be resolved in the governance of LR and LTV.

The threat of misinformation ahead of the European parliamentary elections

BCME responded to concerns about the potential impact of misinformation on the 2019 European elections and held a public discussion entitled “Tackling Disinformation: Moving Towards More Censored or More Responsible Online Space” a month before the vote. Journalists, media experts and officials from the Baltic and Nordic countries, as well as European Union officials, discussed ways to limit the spread of misinformation on social networks, which has already led to tighter industry regulation in some parts of Europe.

Conversation Festival “LAMP”

BCME participated in two events at the popular summer conversation festival “LAMP”, held in Cēsis, Latvia, which brings together interested individuals, intellectuals, mass media representatives, business leaders and public officials. In the discussion “Who needs journalism if everything can be found on the Internet?” the audience was reminded of the core values of quality journalism – plurality of opinion, checking of information sources, news analysis and investigation, which many people have forgotten, instead relying on the abundance of information on the Internet, which

is often misleading. In the conversation “Artificial Intelligence – Perfect Journalist or Dangerous Manipulator?” Latvian media professionals and leading technology experts discussed the impact that artificial intelligence achievements will have on media content – whether technological advances will open up new opportunities for journalists to investigate and analyse, or, on the contrary, will provide unprecedented tools for spreading misinformation.

Global Conference for Media Freedom

BCME also participated in one of the world’s largest media events in 2019, the Global Conference for Media Freedom on July 10 and 11 in London, United Kingdom. In cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia and the Centre for Media Studies at the Stockholm School of Economics in Riga, BCME organised a discussion entitled “Eastern Europe and Central Asia: Building an Integrated Support System for Journalists Facing Hostile Environments”. Internationally renowned journalists shared their experience of operating in countries with limited freedom of expression, which often pose a threat not only to independent media organisations but also to the safety of journalists themselves.



Monika Garbačiauskaitė-Budriene, Director-General, Lithuanian National Radio and Television, opening Public Service Media Forum in Vilnius, April 10

In 2019, BCME conducted research that provided valuable insights into the audiences of media organisations, changes in content consumers’ habits, as well as challenges in developing independent media in the Baltic and Eastern Partnership countries. Considerable attention was paid to the evaluation of the performance of public service broadcasters, which are still inadequately provided for in the Baltic countries and therefore require their role in the development of quality journalism and the whole media industry to be emphasised.

Lithuanian Public Broadcasting Audience Survey

In preparation for the Public Service Media Forum in Vilnius, BCME commissioned a study entitled “Projections of the Lithuanian National Radio and Television in the Society” by Deimantas Jastramskis, a media expert at the University of Vilnius. The survey’s data demonstrated public trust in the content produced by the public broadcaster and provided valuable insight into audience habits, which helps Lithuanian National Radio and Television to evaluate its performance and plan its activities in the future.

Study into the audience of Latvian Television and Latvian Radio

A study by Janis Juzefovičs, a media expert at the University of Tartu, entitled “Public Service Media and Society: Attitudes, Views and Expectations. Study Into Audience of Latvian Television and Latvian Radio” provided in-depth insight into the Latvian public broadcasters’ performance in recent years, audience segments reached by public service media, LR and LTV’s contribution to combating misinformation activities, and other aspects. The study provided strong arguments for the need for significant improvements in the governance of the Latvian public broadcasters, which is the responsibility of politicians, and suggestions for how the media organisations themselves can improve their work to further increase public trust.

Gap Analysis of Independent Media in EaP Countries

BCME published its third study on the state of independent media in the EU Eastern Partnership countries, entitled “Gap Analysis of Independent Media Skills and Needs in the Eastern Partnership”. The study, prepared by regional experts, provided information on the state of the media in six countries – Ukraine, Moldova, Belarus, Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan – which is essential for international organisations in planning activities to support independent, high-quality journalism in the region. By attracting more local experts and building on previous years’ experience, BCME is establishing itself as a source of reliable expertise on the media situation in Eastern Partnership countries.

Study of media needs in the Baltic States

In 2019, BCME began work on its largest ever study of media needs in the three Baltic countries. Experienced media experts in Latvia, Lithuania, and

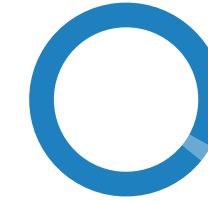
Estonia conducted in-depth interviews with representatives of various media organisations – from national broadcasters to small, regional news-rooms – to explore the kind of support they need in order to make lasting changes in their work and meet the demands of multimedia audiences. The results of the study, which will help in planning targeted and effective media support activities, will be presented in 2020.

In cooperation with our partners, BCME was able to carry out innovative and highly appreciated projects in journalist education, media literacy and media research as well as strengthening its organisational core to ensure the sustainability of its work.



Finances and Accountability

Main positions of the BCME budget in 2019 in EUROS



Income:

Grants EUR 844 591

Other income EUR 23 806

Expenses

Administrative expenses:

BCME staff EUR 267 590

Office rent and utilities EUR 28 864

Implementation of projects:

Project activities and implementation EUR 387 073

Fees for outsourced trainers and experts EUR 198 670

Public information and dissemination of project results EUR 27 367

Other project-related technical costs EUR 110 793

Our supporters

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia
 The Nordic Council of Ministers
 The Danish Cultural Institute in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania
 Konrad Adenauer Stiftung
 The Foreign and Commonwealth Office
 The British Council
 The United States Embassy in Latvia
 The EEA and Norway Grants
 The Embassy of Denmark
 The Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
 The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

Media scientist Jānis Juzefovičs (University of Tartu) is presenting a study into audience of the Latvian Television and Latvian Radio in Riga, 13th of December (Photo credit – Alfrēds Ulmanis)



Main Objectives for 2020

In 2020, BCME will continue building its capacity as a hub for high-quality and innovative journalism by developing the multi-platform production skills of local journalists and editors and further improving the quality of public interest journalism in regional media through training and targeted mentoring in accordance with grants for multimedia content production.

Strengthening networks among independent media organisations and journalists, thereby contributing to professional communication and information sharing at both a national and pan-Baltic level, is also among the goals for the next year. Likewise, focusing on innovative approaches to storytelling and helping media outlets find sustainable business models through various training activities will be among our areas of operation.

A further aim of BCME is to strengthen its regional and international voice by actively participating in a series of public events, discussions, conferences and forums, as well as being a proactive supporter of the vulnerable media markets in the Baltics and beyond.

Erin Brown (USA), media consultant and storyteller, working with Latvian television journalists on mobile storytelling, Riga, 2019

BCME staff

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Internews
IREX Europe
IREX
Transitions Online
BBC Media Action
The Norwegian Institute of Journalism
Nordic Journalist Centre
The Independent Journalism Center of Moldova
The Thompson Foundation

BCME board

Jolanta Tarasavičiene
Chairperson of the Board (until November 2019)
Head of international relations, the Lithuanian Public Broadcaster LRT (Lithuania)

Andres Joesaar
Vice-rector for creative activities and cooperation, Tallinn University, and head of media research at the Estonian Public Broadcaster ERR (Estonia)

Aiste Žilinskiene
Head of the Lithuanian Online Media Association (Lithuania)

Nika Aleksejeva
Data literacy trainer, chair of the board of the School of Data (Latvia)

Anna Peipiņa
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