



Committee to Protect Journalists

March 2, 2026

Alix Didier Fils-Aimé
Acting Prime Minister
Primature
Rue Prosper, Musseau, Port-au-Prince

Dear Prime Minister Fils-Aimé,

We at the Committee to Protect Journalists, an independent press freedom organization, write to express our concern regarding recent actions taken by Haitian public officials that threaten press freedom and journalist safety in the country.

We are particularly concerned by the **Freedom of Expression & Defamation decree** issued on December 18, 2025, by the country's Transitional Presidential Council in the final days of last year that broadens criminal defamation laws, making it even more risky for journalists to report on public corruption.

The now defunct transition council published the decree without prior public discussion, showing a flagrant disregard for political process and accountability. Concerningly, this freedom of expression decree also removes the ability to question or hold to account any public institutions in the country without fear of prison or crippling fines.

After consulting with members of the media in Haiti, we strongly urge you to immediately repeal this measure in your capacity as prime minister and acting president. We believe repealing this problematic decree would also be an impactful step to help the people of Haiti regain faith in the government prior to important elections this year.

CPJ research shows ([see attached article](#)) that a lack of transparency and **hostility from government authorities** have left many media outlets and their reporters without the protections they desperately need to safely do their jobs.

Haitian journalists have worked in extraordinarily challenging circumstances for the last two years due to ongoing insecurity in the country. Based on CPJ's latest data and reports throughout 2025, Haiti is regrettably considered one of the most dangerous places in the world for journalists, with near-total impunity for those who kill journalists.

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this matter further with you in person if you would find this helpful to understand the issues that concern us.

Respectfully,

Jose Zamora
Regional Director, Américas
Committee to Protect Journalists

CHAIR

Jacob Weisberg

CEO

Jodie Ginsberg

VICE CHAIR

Lydia Polgreen THE NEW YORK TIMES

DIRECTORS

Rebecca Blumstein NBC NEWS

Diane Brayton THE NEW YORK TIMES

Gary Briggs

Sally Buzbee REUTERS

Phil Chetwynd AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE

Susan Chira

Sheila Coronel COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

Caolifhionn Gallagher
DOUGHTY STREET CHAMBERS

Alessandra Galloni REUTERS

Lester Holt NBC NEWS

Roula Khalaf FINANCIAL TIMES

Jonathan Klein GETTY IMAGES

Peter Lattman EMERSON COLLECTIVE

Kati Marton

Michael Massing

Katherine Meeks FOX NEWS

Geraldine Fabrikant Metz THE NEW YORK TIMES

Graciela Mochkofsky
CUNY CRAIG NEWMARK GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Alan Murray
WSJ LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Julie Owono
INTERNET SANS FRONTIÈRES and
META OVERSIGHT BOARD

Julie Pace THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

David Remnick THE NEW YORKER

Maria Ressa RAPPLER

María Teresa Ronderos

Jacqueline Simmons BLOOMBERG

Nika Soon-Shiong DROP SITE NEWS

Roger Widmann

Jon Williams

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation
Press Freedom Center
P.O. Box 2675
New York, NY 10108
Phone: +1 (212) 465-1004
Fax: +1 (212) 465-9568