

CPJ, partners call on RSF to release three female journalists detained in Darfur

We, the undersigned civil society organizations, call on the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) to immediately and unconditionally release Nyala Radio journalists [Ishraqah Abdulrahman](#), [Zahraa Muhammad Al-Hassan](#), and [Mawahib Ibrahim](#), who have been detained since [February 28, 2026](#), amid growing concerns over their health and safety.

The three female journalists have been held for nearly six months without due process or adequate medical care. Women recently released from the detention facility where Abdulrahman, Al-Hassan and Ibrahim are held [reported](#) that the journalists had lost significant weight and were suffering from fever and other untreated health complications.

Their prolonged detention is part of a broader pattern of attacks on the press during Sudan's war. Since fighting began in April 2023, [journalists have faced killings, arbitrary detention, disappearances, sexual violence, threats, and other abuses](#). At least [16 journalists and media workers were killed](#) between 2023 and 2025, and [nine journalists remain missing](#) after being detained by the RSF, including prominent journalist [Muammar Ibrahim](#), whose whereabouts remain unknown since his detention on October 26, 2025.

The detention of Abdulrahman, Al-Hassan, and Ibrahim is especially alarming given the documented widespread abuses against women in Sudan's conflict, and the risks faced by women in detention. Journalists must not be targeted for documenting a war in which independent reporting is already increasingly difficult and dangerous.

We call on the RSF to:

- Immediately release Ishraqah Abdulrahman, Zahraa Muhammad Al-Hassan, and Mawahib Ibrahim
- Provide these journalists with the medical care they require, and disclose the whereabouts of those still missing
- Release all journalists detained in connection with their work

We also urge the international community to press for the release of all detained journalists in Sudan and ensure that attacks against the press are documented and included in international accountability efforts.

Signatories

1. Bloggers Association of Kenya (BAKE)
2. CIVICUS
3. Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)
4. Eastern Africa Editors Society
5. Egyptian Human Rights Forum (EHRF)
6. Emergency Lawyers Group
7. EQUIPE MEDIA SAHARA
8. Essential Information
9. Free Press Unlimited
10. International Association of People's Lawyers (IAPL)
11. International Press Institute
12. Lauren Fortgang

13. Libyan Center for Freedom of Press (LCFP)
14. PEN International
15. Somali Journalists Syndicate (SJS)
16. Sudanese Journalists Syndicate
17. The African Editors Forum (TAEF)