

WE TAKE CARE OF OURSELVES TOGETHER



A guide for coverage of
demonstrations for media
and organizations



¿WHAT DOES THE CONSTITUTION SAY ABOUT THE RIGHT TO DEMONSTRATE?

The art. 32 protects peoples' rights to gather and demonstrate peacefully, without weapons and with lawful means, without the need of getting permission.



WHO CAN COVER A DEMONSTRATION?

Art. 26 guarantees the freedom of speech and press. It says that every person has the right to generate, process and spread information, and to use any lawful, suitable instrument for that end.



WHAT IS THE ROLE OF SECURITY FORCES IN A DEMONSTRATION?

BLUE HELMETS: Their common name comes from the helmets they wear and the color of their uniforms. They are also known as the anti-disturbance or anti-riot agents. Besides weapons and tear gas, they carry clubs and shields, which they can use to inflict physical damage.



- * In the surroundings of the demonstration, in terraces or building floors, snipers and hydrant cars can be located. Take pictures or videos of them to register that carefully.

A tape recorder
(in case you
would want to
record interviews
and make
podcast episodes)

An external
mic

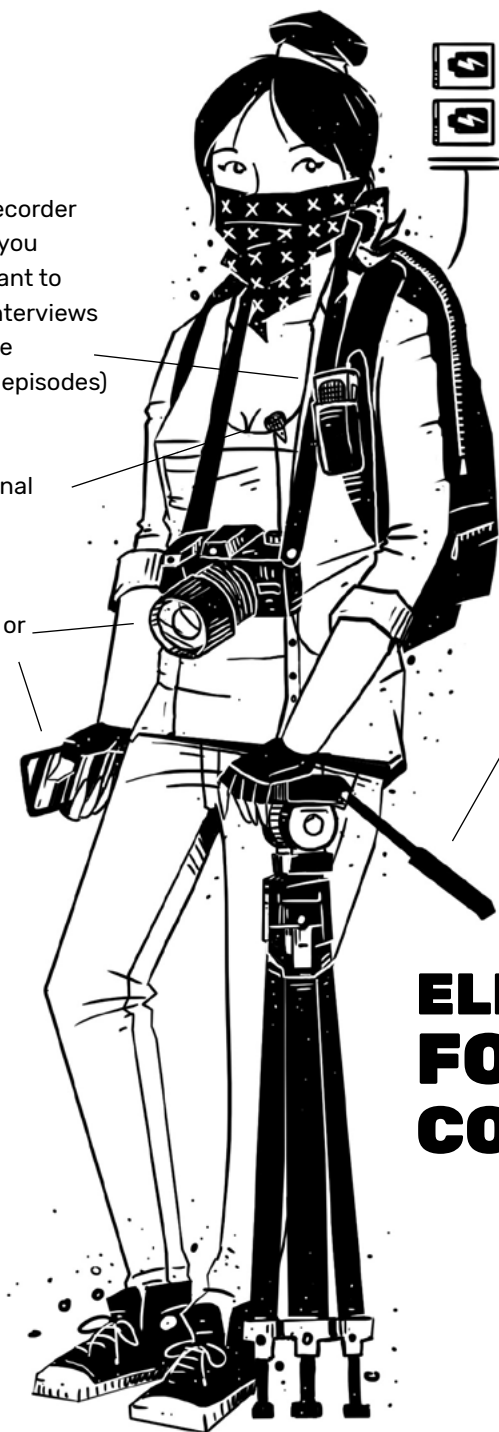
A phone or
camera



A phone battery
charger of extra
batteries for
the camera

A tripod

ELEMENTS FOR COVERAGE



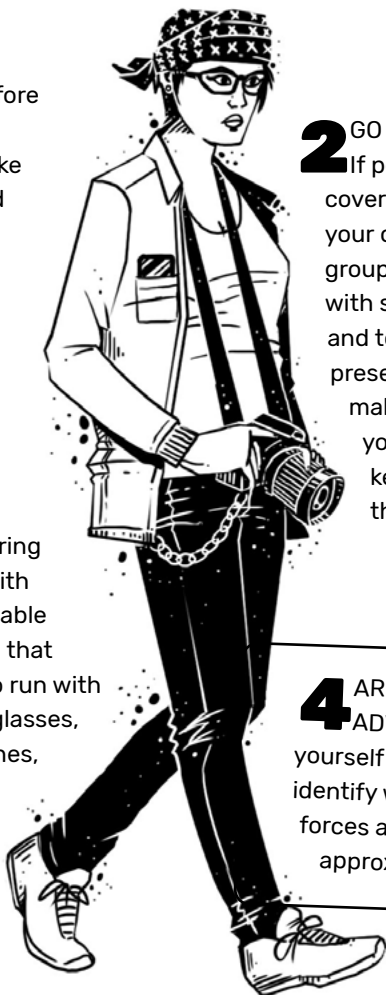
HOW TO COVER A DEMONSTRATION

1 PRACTICE: Before going to the demonstration, take some pictures and videos with the devices you are planning to use for the coverage.

3 PROTECT YOURSELF: Bring some kind of ID. with you. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes that would allow you to run with ease. If you wear glasses, take the normal ones, not the contact ones. Cover your hair with a scarf.

2 GO WITH COMPANY: If possible, make the coverage with someone from your organization or media group, in order to count with some safety support and to document your presence. If you go alone, make sure someone from your organization will keep in touch with you throughout the coverage.

4 ARRIVE TO THE PLACE IN ADVANCE: To familiarize yourself with the place, identify where the security forces are located, and their approximate number.



5 DEFINE WHAT YOU WANT TO COVER: : This will help you to plan the event covering.

6 TAKE PICTURES AND VIDEOS FROM DIFFERENT ANGLES:



PPANORAMICS: To show the number of people that are present and the place where the protest is taking place.



MEDIA: To show signs and the people who participate. This angle also has the purpose of registering confrontations in the safest way.



PORTRAITS: To show that people participate in the demonstration and communicate emotions. It is important to be careful with this type of images because they can reveal the identity of under-age participants or others, and facilitate the persecution of them after.



7 SHARE YOUR PICTURES OR VIDEOS through a channel that was previously agreed with your organization, which could be an instant messaging platform or through email.

8 IN ORDER TO PUBLISH WHAT YOU HAVE REGISTERED, locate yourself in a safe place, if possible within the margins of the demonstration, so you can avoid being unprotected if a confrontation arises.

WHERE TO SHARE INSTANTLY

In order to spread your information instantly, use social media channels. Use the hashtags (#) of the demonstration, if any, so your content can be included to the newsfeed and reach more people.

TWITTER

You can upload photo albums and videos, accompanied with tweets that will provide context.



FACEBOOK

The Facebook live option allows you to transmit directly what is happening from your covering area.

INSTAGRAM

Instagram stories allow you to upload videos and pictures in a chronological manner. This could be a good channel to show the development of a demonstration.



HOW TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR INFORMATION

Protect your devices from hydrant cars, tear gases or hits or punches coming from the police.

Locate yourself at a prudent distance from places where confrontations occur in order to register what is happening.

Make sure you put an access password to your phone, in case you lose it or it gets confiscated. Take more than one sim card.



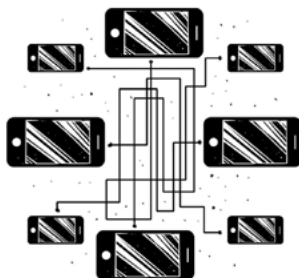
Try to change your contact names for pseudonyms, so they will not be easily identified.

If you have to send delicate information, use encrypted channels on Telegram and Signal. Do not forget to activate the auto-destruction messages mode in order to not leave a conversation history.

WHAT TO DO IF THERE IS AN INTERNET BLOCKAGE AT THE DEMONSTRATION PLACE

In some occasions, the government and the service providers can block internet access at the demonstration place in order to limit communication. This has already occurred in various countries, such as demonstrations in Egypt and Ukraine.





Call people you know or members of your organization so they can spread and report the internet blockage. One effective way of overcoming Internet blockage at a demonstration is to do so with a mesh web. Through this web, a group of people can communicate without interference. **Research how to make your own web!**





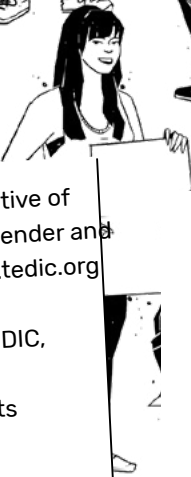
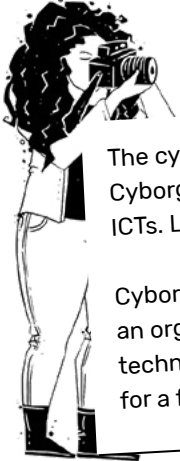


SOURCES

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- Medios Libres <https://sinmiedo.com.co>
- Seven digital security habits that journalists should adopt <https://rsf.org/en/news/seven-digital-security-habits-journalists-should-adopt>



The cyborgfeminist toolkit is an initiative of Cyborgfeministas, a tool to explore gender and ICTs. Learn more at cyborgfeminista.tedic.org



Cyborgfeministas is a program of TEDIC, an organization that develops civic technology and defends digital rights for a free culture on the Internet.

**TE
DIC.**

hola@tedic.org
15 de Agosto 823
almost Humaitá
Asunción, Paraguay



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