INFORM. CONNECT. EMPOWER.

2016
INTERVIEW

MONIQUE VILLA
CEO, Thomson Reuters Foundation

Q: How would you best sum up 2016 at the Thomson Reuters Foundation?
A: This has been the year of innovation, right across all our four programmes. The continued growth of the Foundation, in terms of both impact and new initiatives, is really our mark. I think of Place, our land and property rights portal launched in the spring, I think of our new team of journalists covering slavery across India since January, I think of the Stop Slavery Award given for the first time in November, the sextortion and the refugee rights legal research driven by TrustLaw, and finally our enhanced corporate training offering.

The whole team has been literally non-stop on all fronts. What keeps us going - I guess - is seeing the big impact of our work and partnering with some incredibly powerful and strong like-minded organisations.

Q: How have the Foundation’s programmes grown this year?
A: We added a dozen journalists to our editorial team, expanding our coverage to new under-reported areas like access to property and human trafficking in India. Both efforts were supported through external funding. Place is funded through an investment made by the Omidyar Network and another smaller partner. Our Indian slavery coverage is supported by a grant from the C&A Foundation. Both these partnerships have been fantastic from the start. By shedding light on stories others just don’t cover we are starting a new global conversation. It’s refreshing to see that, at a time when everybody is worrying about fake news, funders come to us to invest in trusted journalism, whether through editorial coverage or training.

TrustLaw continues to expand the practice of pro bono around the world, attracting new members by the week. In not even six years, we really have changed the practice of pro bono for hundreds of law firms – it’s not me saying this, it’s them: we give them cases all over the globe and the opportunity to work with other legal teams in a way they never did before. As a result, our legal research is incredibly strong and law firms tell us they have spent 85 million dollars in brain time of lawyers for our members, the best NGOs and social entrepreneurs in 175 countries. More than 3,000 of them. This year we have also grown our corporate training offering, a new successful way to support the growth of our costly programmes.
And of course our Trust Women conference where we take action on big issues has become the world’s leading anti-slavery forum. With 700 delegates coming to London this year, we have really seen the event evolving into something much bigger than just a women’s rights conference. And this is why I decided to rename Trust Women the Trust Conference, exploring even further themes such as slavery, mass migration, radicalisation, and the breaking of social taboos. The name changes, the spirit of the conference won’t. It’s interesting to note that all our programmes are inspired by the Trust Principles of independence, integrity and freedom from bias.

Tell us more about the Stop Slavery Award.

This is one of the highlights of 2016. When I launched it to honour companies which are the best at fighting forced labour deep down their supply chains, I had no idea how many would want to be candidates and be brave enough to place themselves under more scrutiny. I was incredibly pleased to see global giants such as Apple or Tesco apply for it and finish in the shortlist of the ten corporations which undertook the most consistent efforts to try to clean their supply chains. NXP Semiconductors and Hewlett Packard Enterprise won the Award, a superb statue from Anish Kapoor, and will be able to use its logo for one year. The jury and I look forward to seeing the candidates for the 2017 Stop Slavery Awards.

What can we expect from the Foundation in 2017?

On top of my wish list I put the liberation of my colleague Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe, who has been detained in Iran since April 3. I know Nazanin is innocent and all of us at the Foundation want her back. Her daughter Gabriella desperately needs her, and so does her husband Richard Ratcliffe who is incredibly brave in the circumstances. Let’s hope all our efforts to free her will finally come to a result.

For the Foundation, you can expect bigger impact and more action across the board. We keep on growing and our services are more and more needed in this very fast-changing world. Never has TrustLaw or independent reporting been more needed.
TRUST PRINCIPLES

The Foundation has adopted the Reuters Trust Principles since its creation in 2008. The Trust Principles were created in 1941, in the midst of World War II, in agreement with the Newspaper Publishers Association and the Reuters shareholders at the time. The Principles imposed obligations on Reuters and its employees to act at all times with integrity, independence and freedom from bias and fortified them in carrying out the difficult and delicate tasks with which they were faced.

Reuters Directors and shareholders were determined to protect and preserve the Trust Principles established in 1941 when Reuters became a publicly traded company on the London Stock Exchange and Nasdaq. A unique structure was put in place to achieve this. A new company was formed and given the name 'Reuters Founders Share Company Limited', its purpose being to hold a 'Founders Share' in Reuters.

In 2008, the Trust Principles were adopted by the new company, Thomson Reuters.
THE TRUST PRINCIPLES ARE:

1. That Thomson Reuters shall at no time pass into the hands of any one interest, group or faction;
2. That the integrity, independence and freedom from bias of Thomson Reuters shall at all times be fully preserved;
3. That Thomson Reuters shall supply unbiased and reliable news services to newspapers, news agencies, broadcasters and other media subscribers and to businesses, governments, institutions, individuals and others with whom Thomson Reuters has or may have contracts;
4. That Thomson Reuters shall pay due regard to the many interests which it serves in addition to those of the media; and
5. That no effort shall be spared to expand, develop and adapt the news and other services and products so as to maintain its leading position in the international news and information business.
THIS IS US

33 LANGUAGES
WHO WE ARE

We promote socio-economic progress and the rule of law worldwide. We act as an impact multiplier, leveraging the skills, expertise and values of the Thomson Reuters enterprise to run programmes that inform, connect and ultimately empower people around the world.
WHAT WE DO

TRUSTLAW

We work with the world’s best law firms to provide free legal assistance to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and social enterprises.

TRUST WOMEN

We convene thought leaders, decision makers and activists to take action to put the rule of law behind women’s rights, and to fight modern-day slavery.

UNDER-REPORTED NEWS

We cover the stories overlooked by mainstream media, triggering a debate that leads to open, fair and better informed societies.

MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

We promote the highest standards in journalism by training reporters around the world.

CORPORATE TRAINING

We deliver innovative communications training solutions to governments and organisations worldwide. All proceeds help fund our philanthropic activities.

REUTERS INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF JOURNALISM

We fund the Reuters Institute at the University of Oxford, the world’s leading research centre for comparative journalism.
TrustLaw is the Thomson Reuters Foundation’s global pro bono legal programme. It connects the world’s leading law firms and corporate legal teams with high-impact NGOs and social enterprises to drive social progress. TrustLaw helps produce groundbreaking legal research, and offers innovative legal training worldwide.

In six years, the programme generated the equivalent of $85 million in free legal assistance across more than 175 countries, delivering legal support that has significantly impacted local communities.
With staff in nine countries and fluency in 19 languages, the TrustLaw network continues to expand, with new NGOs and social enterprises joining the network. Thanks to the service of thousands of lawyers working pro bono, the organisations are now able to save valuable resources and to focus on their core mission, scaling their impact.
JOIN THE NETWORK

NGOS & SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

DISCUSS YOUR LEGAL NEEDS WITH A MEMBER OF OUR TEAM

SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR PRO BONO ASSISTANCE

LAWYERS

RECEIVE A WEEKLY UPDATE WITH NEW PROJECTS

INDICATE YOUR INTEREST IN WORKING ON ANY GIVEN PROJECT

CONNECT
HOW IT WORKS

TrustLaw is a free service. After joining the network, NGOs and social enterprises can request free legal support, while lawyers can work on global pro bono projects that match their area of expertise.

Once a request for assistance reaches TrustLaw, our team of in-house lawyers provides advice on how to frame and shape the specific issue. The request is then submitted to our global network, which includes some of the world’s best legal talent.

Every week, the lawyers receive an update of all pro bono projects available. If there is interest from multiple law firms, the NGO or social enterprise picks who to work with.

As part of its mission, TrustLaw also facilitates large-scale international legal research. This powerful tool enables NGOs and social enterprises to advocate and lobby, often achieving significant policy change on the ground.
The TrustLaw Index is a global survey that maps the scale and trends of the pro bono legal sector, presenting data on a country-by-country basis.

Compiled with the know-how of 64,500 lawyers across 75 countries, our research is an invaluable tool to help spread the practice of pro bono.

By mapping the scale and trends of the sector internationally, the Index offers firms – large and small – a unique resource to help build robust pro bono practices and to get the greatest impact from their work.

In particular, the 2016 survey indicated that lawyers donated over 2.5 million hours of free legal support, performing an average of over 39 hours of pro bono each.
2016 TRUSTLAW INDEX BY NUMBERS

- 134 Law firms participating
- 64,500 Lawyers providing data
- 75 Countries surveyed
- 39.2 Hours of pro bono per lawyer
- 27,200 Lawyers performing 10 or more pro bono hours
- 2.5 M Pro bono hours performed
India published guidelines protecting ‘Good Samaritans’, including the right to anonymity, and immunity from civil or criminal liabilities. In January 2016, the government released a set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to protect ‘Good Samaritans’ during police court procedures. On 30 March, the Supreme Court made these guidelines and SOPs legally binding across the country.

“We leveraged TrustLaw’s research in all our interactions with policymakers, parliamentarians, and even the Supreme Court of India to provide them with an international perspective regarding Good Samaritan laws in other countries.”

- Piyush Tewari,
  Founder & CEO of SaveLIFE Foundation
More than 30 million people worldwide work in the fishing industry.

Across South-East Asia, this is one of the most dangerous occupations, with thousands of people trafficked and literally sold to the owners of fishing boats for as little as US$250.

Every day, hundreds of illegal immigrants are sent out to the high seas to fish on unregistered “ghost ships”, often for months at a time, and under the constant threat of violence. TrustLaw connected Visayan Forum Foundation, a leading Filipino anti-slavery NGO, to seven law firms led by Linklaters. The lawyers examined the rules and standards protecting fishers across 14 jurisdictions throughout the Asia-Pacific, Europe, Africa and the US.

The research found that fishers in the Philippines were not explicitly categorised as ‘employees’, remaining excluded from general labour law protections. It also found that basic working and living standards for fishers were not being met across the country.

Visayan Forum used the research to lobby the government of the Philippines, securing a commitment from the Department for Labour and Employment to issue specific guidelines on health and safety standards. As a result, in June 2016, the Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE) released the Philippines’ first rules and regulations governing the working and living conditions of fishers. The report created momentum for policy change on the ground, with some fishing companies agreeing to a significant improvement in working conditions for their fishers. As a result, fishers have reported having access to medical protection and earning more than double their pay the previous year.

"This research is vital to further our efforts to protecting and empowering marginalised fishermen. TrustLaw fills an important gap in legal knowledge that we, service providers, don’t have. The research gives us an opportunity to lobby for reforms, conduct dialogues and share information with our partners."

- Cecilia Flores Oebanda, Founder and Executive Director of Visayan Forum Foundation
The TrustLaw Awards celebrate some of the most successful projects made between remarkable and dedicated legal teams, and high-impact NGOs and social enterprises of the TrustLaw network.

The sixth annual award ceremony was held in New York on September 22, featuring a keynote address by New York County District Attorney Cyrus R. Vance Jr. on the power of pro bono in advancing justice.
2016 WINNERS

**IMPACT AWARD**

Kirkland & Ellis  
*Project:* Advocacy efforts to ban gay conversion therapy for LGBT youths  
*Pro Bono Client:* Equality Illinois

**INNOVATION AWARD**

Microsoft, Ashu Thakur & Associates  
*Project:* Protecting and commercialising a temperature monitoring bracelet to combat neonatal hypothermia  
*Pro Bono Client:* Bempu Health

**COLLABORATION AWARD**

Latham & Watkins – who led a consortium of lawyers, consultants and academics spanning 12 jurisdictions  
*Project:* Legal advice on border control, asylum and refugee resettlement in response to the European refugee crisis  
*Pro Bono Client:* International Rescue Committee

**LEGAL TEAM OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Latham & Watkins  
*International Law Firm of the Year*  
*Norton Rose Fulbright South Africa*  
*Domestic Team of the Year*  
*Hewlett Packard Enterprise*  
*In-house Legal Team of the Year*

**LAWYER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Yvonne Chilume, Chilume & Company  
David Birnbaum, Evan Knobloch & Jonathan Man, Kirkland & Ellis
TrustLaw has been instrumental in helping us launch and sustain cutting edge projects that protect the rights of girls and women both nationally and internationally. They connected us with Orrick to combat online sexual violence, identified by the FBI as the fastest growing threat to children and teens. The work has been published in a highly acclaimed report “A Call to Action: Ending Sextortion in the Digital Age.” TrustLaw has also connected us with Winston & Strawn. We are now working to ensure that the victims of sexual assaults on University campuses are given the support and justice they deserve.

- Carol Robles-Román, President and CEO, Legal Momentum

Our lawyers always enjoy the projects we receive from TrustLaw more than the pro bono projects we find on our own, as they present more complex legal issues to work on. More importantly, we know these projects are mission-critical to our pro-bono clients. Through this work, we can have a real impact on the future of the client’s operations. Our firm more than tripled the number of hours devoted to pro bono work over the last year. This great result would not have been possible without the ongoing efforts and support of the TrustLaw team.”

- Andrew Stoutley, Director of Administration, Tilleke & Gibbin
We could not accomplish what we do globally without our partnership with TrustLaw. TrustLaw provides critical legal services to hundreds of social enterprises, charities and nonprofits, and it enables lawyers to experience the joy and gratification of engaging in pro bono work, in some cases for the very first time.

- Wendy Atrokhov, Public Service Counsel, Latham & Watkin

More and more around the world, barriers to pro bono are falling, participation is up, and lawyers are excited to make a difference in their jurisdictions and beyond. This sea change is happening in no small part thanks to the TrustLaw Pro Bono Index. The Index plays a vital role in monitoring and encouraging global pro bono. It is an aspirational tool for us to gauge how we’re doing, and inspires us to do more.

- Louis O’Neil, Counsel, White & Case

Equality Illinois is honored to have received with Kirkland & Ellis LLP the 2016 Impact Award from TrustLaw. Kirkland’s legal research informed our advocacy for legislation that bans conversion therapy in Illinois and protects LGBTQ youth from harmful and discredited attempts to change who they are. Our partnership with Kirkland was made possible through TrustLaw and the Thomson Reuters Foundation. Thank you, TrustLaw, for your collaboration and partnership.

- Mike Ziri, Director of Public Policy, Equality Illinois
What new legal challenges is the refugee crisis posing – both for the IRC and the refugee communities you support?

For people displaced by conflict, leaving home and travelling to a new country can be a highly traumatic experience. Refugees are forced to think not only about their safety, but the impact of laws on border control, push-backs, deportations, discrimination, asylum processes or family reunification. Information is often scarce and rumours spread, sometimes with disastrous consequences.

The IRC is a humanitarian aid organisation that supports refugees and advocates on their behalf. As a charity, we have limited access to lawyers who are able to give expert opinions and practical advice. When legislation affecting refugees is not only complex, but differs between countries and is constantly changing, external support becomes vital.

Why did you turn to TrustLaw and what was the impact of our partnership?

In March 2016, the EU and Turkey met to prepare a deal that would significantly limit the ability of thousands of refugees to enter Europe and would legislate for their return to Turkey. In
order to lobby effectively on behalf of refugees, the IRC needed urgent legal advice on the implications of the deal.

TrustLaw put the IRC in contact with Latham & Watkins, who selected 30 lawyers from six offices to work on the project, and produced 300 pages of research in just over one week. The research allowed the IRC to advocate for the rights of refugees while continuing our day to day work of supporting refugees affected by the deal.

**Q** What do you hope this research will achieve in the long term?

**A** The research gives vital information about safe countries, push-backs, asylum procedures, safe passage, reception, relocation and family reunification - in international, EU and national law. While some of these laws may be subject to change, the legal principles will continue to be relevant in the long term.

The refugee crisis shows no signs of abating, and European leaders are seeking deals on migration with third countries in Africa and the Middle East that are often based on returns and deterrents. Understanding the legal framework underpinning these decisions will be vital to the IRC’s work moving forward.

**Q** What would you say to other INGOs considering partnering with TrustLaw?

**A** The IRC would highly recommend partnering with TrustLaw for any organisation with limited capacity to conduct legal analysis. Without the support of Latham & Watkins it would have been impossible to obtain the level of legal expertise required to protect refugees adequately. We are deeply grateful to TrustLaw for their support.
Trust Women is a fast-growing movement committed to finding real solutions to empower women and to fight slavery worldwide. The Foundation’s biggest annual event is attended by leaders of global corporations, law firms, government, pioneers and frontline activists in the field of women’s rights and anti-slavery.

The 2016 annual conference brought together 700 global leaders from 60 countries including Brazil, Australia, China, India, Kyrgyzstan and Switzerland. The two-day event reached 65 million people worldwide through extensive media coverage and highly interactive social media engagement.
ADVISORY BOARD

CHERIE BLAIR
Lawyer and Founder, Cherie Blair Foundation for Women

EMMA BONINO
Former Italian Foreign Minister

MABEL VAN ORANJE
Initiator and Chair, Girls Not Brides

CLAUDIA PRADO
Member of the Executive Committee, Baker & McKenzie

HER MAJESTY QUEEN NOOR
Founder and Chair, King Hussein Foundation
“I want to reiterate how impressed I was with the quality and substance of your conference. You have built an amazing network and coalition.”

– Cyrus R. Vance Jr, New York County District Attorney

“I probably speak at 100 conferences a year, and none fill me with as much joy as yours. The sheer professionalism of your team combined with the vast array of informed speakers and challenging subject matters leaves me in awe.”

– Nazir Afzal OBE, Chief Executive, Police and Crime Commissioners, England & Wales
“I was deeply humbled to be at the conference. I came home with a heart full of inspiration and determination to make this world a more equal place for all genders. Thank you so much to everyone for sharing such incredible stories. You are my HEROES.”

– Aditi Gupta, Founder of Menstrupedia, India

“I was very impressed with the subject matter. I especially appreciated the panels on taboo and radicalisation both of which are difficult and current problems not unrelated to Trafficking. Dealing with these issues is always easier when we acknowledge them and drag them into the open at forums such as yours.”

– Michael Moran
Assistant Director, Organised and Emerging Crime/Vulnerable Communities Office, Interpol
Trusted by Women delegates commit to taking concrete action to empower women worldwide and to fight modern-day slavery. At each conference, inspiring and entrepreneurial change-makers propose innovative solutions to address human rights issues arising from the conference themes. We call them Actions.

During the conference in 2016, anti-trafficking campaigners, human rights activists, top law firms, industry leaders, business and technology entrepreneurs and women’s rights advocates pledged their time, resources and expertise to a number of high-impact initiatives. These included expanding a programme to prevent and rehabilitate radicalised children in Pakistan, a campaign to fight online sex trafficking and creating a network within the hotel industry to stop slavery.

**Fighting Online Sex Trafficking**
Proposed by charity Legal Momentum, the campaign aims to shut down the adult services section of online bulletin boards in the US through legal means, as well as creating metrics for online safety and building a social movement to put pressure on policymakers and business leaders to end the online abuse of women and children.

**Prevention and Rehabilitation of Radicalised Children in Pakistan**
The war in North West Pakistan has devastated the country and made thousands of young people vulnerable to radicalisation by violent extremists. SWAaT for Pakistan committed to scale its existing schools programme to prevent the exploitation and radicalization of children through education.
THE STOP SLAVERY AWARD

PUBLIC RECOGNITION FOR THE CORPORATE FIGHT AGAINST SLAVERY

The Stop Slavery Award honours corporations that have set a gold standard in efforts to clean their supply chains of bonded and forced labour. The initiative aims to start a virtuous cycle, by highlighting the need for companies to take the lead in ending slavery worldwide.

The Award itself, designed by artist Anish Kapoor, was presented at the inaugural ceremony at Trust Women 2016 to two winners; Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE) for the ‘Transparency and Response to Challenges’ category, and NXP Semiconductors for the ‘Policy and Implementation’ category.
The Judging Board recognised HPE’s work in the category of ‘Transparency and Response to Challenges’ category, in engaging outside parties on risks it had identified in its supply chain, running a series of anti-trafficking workshops with suppliers and labour agencies, and promoting ethical recruitment in global supply chains.

NXP Semiconductors won the ‘Policy and Implementation’ category for excelling in its mission to make anti-slavery ‘everyone’s business’ in the company, for demonstrating good working practices, and for identifying vulnerable worker populations.

The winning international corporations were selected from a shortlist of 10, representing industries from all over the world, including Apple, Tesco, Thai Union and others ranging from retail to extractives. They were asked to respond to a series of questions designed in collaboration with global law firm Baker & McKenzie, and experts in the field.
“We are truly honoured to receive this Stop Slavery Award. As some of the biggest companies in the world, we have a particular obligation to try to eradicate forced labour from our supply chains. We need a combination of individual leadership and teamwork between corporations, governments, investors and other stakeholders to tackle the root causes of forced labour.”

- Meg Whitman, President and CEO of Hewlett Packard Enterprise

“Modern slavery and debt bondage are serious violations of human rights. As a technology provider working with hundreds of suppliers globally, we dug deeply into our supply chain to ensure our workers are not held hostage by labour suppliers. We thank the Thomson Reuters Foundation for their work and for the opportunity to highlight the continuing efforts NXP is making to bring this abhorrent practice to an end once and for all.”

- Richard Clemmer, CEO of NXP Semiconductors
How did Trust Women empower you to help Yazidi victims of ISIS militants?

The Foundation held a panel discussion on the plight of the Yazidis at Trust Women 2015. Two weeks later, Monique Villa created the opportunity for me to speak at the UN Security Council. This gave me an international platform to raise awareness about the enslavement of women and the genocide of Yazidis. The audience was very moved by my testimony.

What are the most immediate needs of people who have been through your own ordeal?

All survivors of enslavement and trafficking, like me, seek justice. To this date, not a single terrorist has been charged with participating in the Yazidi genocide, not a single perpetrator has been charged with enslaving more than 6,500 women, girls and children like me. Unless these groups are held accountable,
You regularly speak to Yazidi girls who remain in captivity. What gives you hope for the future?

What gives me hope is when people from all around the world speak against terrorism and radicalism. What gives me hope is the strength of those women and girls - who still suffer under captivity, facing constant rape and abuse - who are still looking for a way to escape. Unless we have hope, we cannot continue.

But I also have to be true to myself. I started this campaign more than a year ago and still little has changed. I am hopeful, because defeat is not a choice.

Is the international community still engaged with your campaign and is it still responding?

The international community is still showing interest, however more than 3,200 women, girls and children still remain in captivity, ISIS still controls vast areas and people are suffering. The conflict has left millions living below the poverty line. Women, especially those who have lost their families, have been left without support, education or income. I believe Iraq and Syria have been left to soak in the blood of innocent people. It is unclear what will happen after ISIS, if any democratic system will be established, or whether the area will sink again into an age of darkness, internal conflicts and corruption.

this crisis will continue. Most immediately, emergency humanitarian support should be provided to help survivors, including health, psychological and financial help.
This year, we joined forces with YouTube for Good – the charity arm of the world’s biggest video sharing platform - to give young people the opportunity to use their YouTube channels to explore some of the themes tackled at Trust Women and to present them to their respective audiences around the world.

Thirteen vloggers from the US, UK, Germany, Jordan, Romania and South Africa joined our #Ichoosetosee campaign, producing highly engaging videos and discussing how issues such as modern-day slavery, social taboos and the refugee crisis affect their lives.

The vloggers then joined us at Trust Women, so they could meet and speak to global decision makers and share that experience with their audiences, typically millennials.
**INTERVIEW**

**JULIA PAIGE**
Director, YouTube for Good

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**Q** Why did you decide to partner with Trust Women?
**A** Thomson Reuters Foundation’s reputation for leading on women’s rights and the mission to bring under-reported stories to the forefront was very aligned with YouTube’s values. This was a unique opportunity to bring these stories to our YouTube creators and their audiences.

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**Q** Do you think young people are given enough opportunities to contribute to global conversations?
**A** A common misconception of younger demographics is that they are less engaged on issues related to civics and social impact. We have found that our audience is very interested in using their voice to change the world, but is looking for ways to maximise their individual impact. Social media has given a voice to
many among this generation, but with so many issues facing them, it’s often difficult for the right information to reach the audience.

How can we encourage vloggers to use their powerful networks ‘for good’?

Many are already looking for ways to make impact but need the resources to bring these issues to their audience. Creators have already accomplished an extraordinary task of building their audiences over time and with a commitment to content generation. It’s our job to give them the tools and information and exposure they need to take these issues of social impact to their audiences.

Were you happy with the level of engagement garnered through the Trust Women partnership?

Yes, and there were many great outcomes. Our participating creators expressed enormous gratitude to have been part of the conference and created great content with interviews of prominent leaders in social impact.
ENGAGING THE ENTERPRISE

During Foundation Day, we kicked off the Foundation Ambassador Challenge, an initiative offering all 60,000 Thomson Reuters employees an opportunity to get directly involved with our work. Employees were challenged to use their skills to raise awareness of the Foundation and fundraise in their regions.

On July 14, we hosted Foundation Day, an international engagement event showcasing our work and impact to Thomson Reuters employees around the world. We hosted engagement tables in offices in London, New York, Eagan, Bangkok and Mumbai. Additionally, we livestreamed a townhall led by our CEO Monique Villa on the company’s intranet reaching over 10,000 Thomson Reuters employees online.
In 2016, we decided to engage even more members of the enterprise through the Thomson Reuters Foundation Ambassador Challenge. In order to nominate themselves, employees had to enter the names of three other colleagues who would support them with their efforts.

The response was overwhelming: over 100 applications from offices around the world poured in. 10 Ambassadors were shortlisted to compete over a six-week period.

The employee-led events ranged from cross-country cycles, to silent auctions, movie nights, raffles, fun runs and bake sales. $20,000 were raised to support the Trust Women Scholarship Scheme.
Why did you decide to join the Foundation’s Global Ambassador Challenge?

I had been following the work of the Thomson Reuters Foundation well before my actual job interview at Thomson Reuters. I was aware of the tremendous work the Foundation does in supporting women’s empowerment, in telling under-reported stories, and in the fight against human trafficking and modern-day slavery. So, when I received an email with the subject line “Take up the Thomson Reuters Foundation Ambassador Challenge” last August, I quickly filled out the application form and bravely nominated myself because I strongly believed that it was my chance to pursue my passion for making a difference. Most of all, it was my chance to get involved with a part of the organisation that I greatly love.

What did you enjoy most about the competition?

What I enjoyed most about the competition were the fundraising activities that we held such as the Benefit Concert, Zumba Class, and Amazing Race. Aside from raising funds for the Trust Women Scholarship Programme, I was also able to unite
EMMANUELE MARIE PARRA

Associate Publishing Specialist at Thomson Reuters and Foundation Ambassador

and bring together the employees of Thomson Reuters Manila, regardless of their business units, as well as my counterparts from Eagan in Minnesota who were very supportive during the competition. This way, employees got the chance to showcase their talent in dancing, singing, poetry and their artistic side. Lastly, I had the opportunity to make new friends from different parts of the business and from the Thomson Reuters Foundation itself.

Q **From an employee’s perspective, why do you think the Thomson Reuters Foundation’s work is important?**

A I think the Thomson Reuters Foundation is undoubtedly one of the best organisations in the world. I am not saying this because I am the Ambassadress, but because I witnessed how it changes the lives of other people. During the competition, I found out that one of their programmes, TrustLaw, supported the Visayan Forum Foundation to help Filipino victims of human trafficking to start a new life. I witnessed with my own eyes how the Trust Women conference made a big impact on almost 700 people who attended. The Foundation also has exceptional programmes that train journalists around the world and delivers credible news that covers under-reported stories often overlooked by mainstream media.

Q **As ambassador you attended the Trust Women conference in London last year. What are your thoughts on the event?**

A The Trust Women conference is an eye opener and a life-changing experience. The two-day conference aims to empower women, fight human trafficking and eradicate modern-day slavery. Being there made me realise that there are many people who have a burning desire to take immediate action and make a difference. I was also blown away by the lineup of speakers and the intense discussions that opened my eyes to the pressing issues of our generation. I was inspired by the life stories of the survivors of child trafficking and human trafficking who are now founders of different organisations across the world. The conference changed my perspective on life, I am now more aware and trying to take action on the issues discussed. Trust Women is a must for everyone regardless of their age, gender, and status in life! Let’s take action to solve the big issues of our time!
THE WORLD’S UNDER-REPORTED NEWS

Journalism is one of the pillars of the Thomson Reuters Foundation. Every day, we cover the stories that are often overlooked by the mainstream media: women’s rights, slavery and human trafficking, international development, property rights and the human impact of climate change. Combining award-winning reporting with an innovative approach to storytelling, our news raises awareness of some of the world’s most pressing issues, triggering a debate that often leads to open, fair, prosperous and tolerant societies.
Forty-five correspondents across five continents, supported by a network of 150+ stringers, enable us to cover unique and original stories globally. The Reuters distribution network disseminates our text and video content to up to one billion people each day.
EXCLUSIVE COVERAGE

We investigated India’s illegal mica mines in the states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh, to uncover that children as young as five had been working to source the shiny mineral that puts the sparkle in makeup and paint.

Our three-month multimedia investigation also found that seven children had died in the mines, and that their deaths had been covered up by their own parents for fear of retaliation and financial losses.

The findings were backed up by India’s child protection group Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) - the organisation funded by Nobel Peace laureate Kailash Satyarthi - which separately documented over 20 mica-related deaths in June 2016.

Our multimedia investigation received worldwide coverage. A few weeks after the publication of our story, the biggest car maker in the world, Volkswagen, announced it had suspended ties with some mica suppliers in India. India’s Ministry of Mines admitted the lack of an effective mechanism to inspect the mica mines.

BLOOD MICA

PHOTO: Vivek Muthuramalingam, Nita Bhall
India is the world’s eighth largest exporter of footwear. The fast-growing industry relies on women who work from home, making it harder to identify and regulate working conditions.

The women, part of a global supply chain making high-end shoes, are often paid less than $0.14 per pair made, sitting crouched over for many hours, stitching together the leather uppers of the shoes, leading to back, neck and eye problems. According to a report published by Cividep India, Homeworkers Worldwide and Labour Behind the Label, these shoes are then sold on the Western market for up to $140.

We documented the working conditions of women shoemakers in Ambur, India, shedding light on the efforts of campaigners urging companies to source leather ethically and map their supply chains.

After our report was published, three international shoe brands came forward promising better conditions for the workers.
In Romania, residents of the village of Runcurel were warned they had just 30 days to leave their homes and businesses to make way for the expansion of a state-owned coal mine. The village residents said no compensation was offered for homes, orchards, crops or other assets linked to the land. The coal company, Oltenia Energy Complex (OEC), maintained it offered various forms of recompense.

Our exclusive reporting on the village and expanding coal mine garnered international attention. The story led to a high-level group of Romanian cabinet ministers meeting with campaigners from Greenpeace and Bankwatch to examine the claims of villagers. Ministers said they had not been aware of the situation in Runcurel until our report was picked up in full by several major publications, including the New York Times.
Despite being one of Africa’s most stable and fastest-growing democracies, Senegal’s average monthly income is less than $100, and around one in eight people are unemployed. As a result, young men living in rural villages throughout Senegal are fleeing their country to pursue their dream of reaching Europe, seeking a better life.

The surge in migrants has sparked debate globally about whether economic migrants should be treated differently from refugees fleeing conflict, and fuelled fears poverty will worsen and national stability might come under threat in countries like Senegal, if remittances dry up.

Senegalese migrants sent home at least 930 billion CFA francs ($1.6 billion) in 2015, eclipsing international aid for Senegal and accounting for more than 10 percent of the country’s gross domestic product (GDP), World Bank data shows. This figure may be far higher as it does not account for the cash-stuffed suitcases brought home by migrants.

Our special feature “No country for Young Men - Senegal’s villages deserted for dreams of Europe” won the video category of the International Labour Organization Global Media Competition for “Breaking Stereotypes on Labour Migration.”
Our website brings you exclusive interviews, opinion and analysis from world leaders and top decision makers.

**The Dalai Lama**  
Spiritual Leader

“The world is facing many problems. We, humans have created all these problems, and it is only we who can solve them through compassion, and from ending all the violence which we have seen in the 20th century. The 21st century has to be the century of peace.”

**Malala Yousafzai**  
Nobel Prize Laureate

“Prime ministers and presidents have chosen 'survival' as their theme for refugee discussions this year. Why have they set the bar so low? How long can a refugee girl be out of school before she is forced into an early marriage or child labour? How long should children wait for education? Eighty percent of adolescent refugees are out of school. Yet young refugees are future leaders on whom we will all depend for peace.”

**Andy Murray**  
World’s N. 1 Professional Tennis Player

“In the fight against malaria, when funding has been reduced or stopped, many countries have seen the disease return with a vengeance. We cannot afford to stand still or let any ground slip when so many lives and futures are at stake.”
Gillian Anderson
Actress and Activist

“Traffickers prey on the vulnerability of their victims and gain from their invisible suffering. Education is at the heart of breaking this cycle and ensuring children don’t fall into the hands of traffickers. We all have a part to play in guaranteeing that children are Taught, Not Trafficked.”

Anish Kapoor
Award-winning Sculptor

“Slavery comes in many forms but there can be little doubt at all that all slavery curtails inner life. That’s the thing we have to protect. Our fragility. The freedom to feel is itself fragile. It requires care, education, protection and above all love. Our fragility is therefore our humanity. We must defend it for ourselves and for each other.”

Kailash Satyarthi
Child Rights Activist and Nobel Laureate

“It is a paradox that on one hand the world is progressing so fast. Never before have we been so wealthy. But on the other hand, children are facing hardships never faced before. Children are being enslaved, trafficked, working as child labourers, being used for prostitution. We want to create a strong moral platform to raise a voice which cannot be ignored.”
This May, we launched PLACE (Property, Land, Access, Connections, Empowerment) a global editorial initiative dedicated to raising awareness of the many human rights issues related to the lack of land ownership.

Lack of land tenure is one of the world’s most silent crises, with property insecurity being a major cause of global poverty and inequality, as well as an obstacle to many development goals including food security, the economic empowerment of women, and climate change mitigation.

Supported by Omidyar Network - the philanthropic investment firm founded by Pierre and Pam Omidyar - PLACE boasts the world’s first specialised news team covering land and property rights with dedicated journalists in Brazil, Kenya, India, and London, as well as an international network of 170 freelancers.

The initiative also includes a dedicated digital platform featuring Thomson Reuters Foundation original articles, together with authoritative reports, powerful analysis, and opinion pieces from thought leaders in the field.

The ultimate aim of the initiative is to spark a well-informed global public discussion around the importance of secure land and property rights as key to promoting social stability, economic prosperity, and peace.

Since its launch, PLACE has produced over 350 original stories, including news/feature articles and investigations that have been re-published across international media outlets, specialised publications, and news aggregators with large generic audiences, helping us reach an estimated audience of almost 650 million readers.
Why is it important to cover land and property rights?

First and foremost, at Omidyar Network we believe that having secure land and property rights is essential for sustained and scaled development for every citizen. Currently the lack of land and property rights is often an issue ‘hiding in plain sight’ - viewed by some as too difficult because it is politically charged and with others fearing more harm than good would come from trying to address the status quo. We feel that covering these stories and highlighting the challenges and solutions can be critical in helping to move important constituencies to engage in meaningful development.

Why did you pick the Thomson Reuters Foundation for this new venture?

We wanted a strong, trusted brand with professional journalists who could be
relied upon to present the stories in a factual, unbiased way, leaving readers free to make up their own minds about the problems and potential solutions. We also wanted a team that would hit the ground running and utilise all the tools of modern independent media – from video, to online, to social media, and global news distribution.

**Q** What are the biggest issues right now in land and property rights?

**A** A lack of awareness and focus by governments and policy makers. A lack of will to adopt solutions - even though they are out there. Conflict over land and resources, particularly around investment-driven development in rural and forested areas. And last, but not least, the ticking time bomb of the world’s slums that along with increasing urbanization requires attention on multiple levels but needs secure land and property rights for all.

**Q** How can we measure impact and improvement in access to land and property rights around the world?

**A** It is vital that we have a baseline as a starting point and a method of measurement that is affordable, repeatable and can compare the current situation in each country in terms of access, coverage and improvement in the provision of land and property rights for all.

That baseline is being set by PRINDEX, the global Property Rights Index that we have developed in association with the UK Department for International Development, the Land Alliance, Gallup and other partners. PRINDEX is an indicator of citizens’ perceptions of the security of property rights and, with this tracking, we can drive a new conversation based on progress and push for more funding, more research and, eventually, more solutions.
PERCEPTION POLLS

Data has the power to illustrate scenarios as vividly as photojournalism. That’s why, every year, we conduct a global perception poll. This year, we tackled the subject of social innovation, assessing the growth of the sector, the emerging trends and obstacles to growth.
THE BEST COUNTRIES TO BE A SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR

**TOP 10**
Countries for Social Entrepreneurs:

1. USA
2. CANADA
3. UK
4. SINGAPORE
5. ISRAEL
6. CHILE
7. SOUTH KOREA
8. HONG KONG
9. MALAYSIA
10. FRANCE

**Social entrepreneurs** find innovative business solutions to tackle social problems. From training rats to detect landmines, to offering micro-lending to Indian farmers, these entrepreneurs see success not just through financial returns, but also in terms of social impact.

While growing globally, social entrepreneurship is little known and understood. To fill this gap, we partnered with Deutsche Bank, UnLtd, and the Global Social Entrepreneurship Network, to conduct the world’s first expert poll on the best countries for social entrepreneurs.

We surveyed more than 900 social enterprise experts in the world’s 45 largest economies and ranked the best places in the world for social innovation.
85% of those polled said social entrepreneurship is gaining momentum globally.

68% say women are well represented in management within the sector. Asian countries rank best.

The world’s hotspots for social innovation are: London, Hong Kong, Berlin, Santiago and Nairobi. Lack of public awareness, government understanding, and access to funding are perceived as the main challenges to the development of the sector.

Social entrepreneurs in Turkey, Venezuela, Brazil and Ireland say government offers them little support. Social entrepreneurs in Canada, Singapore, the United States, Belgium, the Philippines and India say they enjoy relatively easy access to funding.

Brexit is perceived as a major risk to the growth of the sector across Europe.
GLOBAL IMPACT
US named top country for entrepreneurs using business to do good but public puzzled - poll

By Pietro Lombardi and Ellen Wulfhorst

The United States is the best country for business leaders seeking to tackle social problems, according to the first ever poll on the top sectors for social entrepreneurs. But their work is still a mystery to most people, hampering growth in the sector.

Fears for social entrepreneurs as Brexit looms large

By The Economic Times

The United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union is a major concern for social entrepreneurs, who are already facing the challenges of globalisation and economic fluctuations. The prospect of increased regulation and uncertainty is likely to have a significant impact on their ability to innovate and grow their businesses.
MEDIA DEVELOPMENT

For over 30 years, we have been fostering the highest standards of journalism around the world, drawing on the expertise and global footprint of Reuters. We believe accurate and independent journalism leads to better informed societies. It holds power to account, strengthens the rule of law, and contributes to economic and social development.
AUTHORITATIVE AND GLOBAL

We run philanthropic initiatives ranging from the creation of sustainable, independent news platforms, to a wide range of skills and mentoring programmes. This unique mix allows us to provide world-class solutions to help high-quality journalism reach the largest possible audience.

- 15,086* journalists trained
- 68 journalism courses
- 900 mentoring hours
- 5 multi-year impact programmes
117 COUNTRIES HOSTING OUR COURSES

15 NEWSROOM CONSULTANCIES

7 TRAINING LANGUAGES, INCLUDING ARABIC, RUSSIAN AND MANDARIN

4 INDEPENDENT NEWS PLATFORMS SET UP IN IRAQ, EGYPT, ZIMBABWE AND MYANMAR

*cumulative number
FOSTERING JOURNALISM EXCELLENCE

Teaming up enables journalists to learn new reporting techniques, while increasing their network of contacts and resources. It also allows reporters from different political and economic backgrounds to build bridges, create mutual understanding, and tell stories that would not otherwise come to light. Thanks to funding from the Robert Bosch Stiftung, we delivered 16 courses on Economic and Political Reporting bringing together 170 journalists from across the Balkans. Through Perspektivy, our multi-year Russian-language programme, we trained nearly 60 journalists across Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

BREAKING THE SILENCE AROUND TABOOS

Abortion. Mental health. Sexual abuse in sport. In every society there are issues that citizens tend not to discuss or avoid altogether. But those issues can affect millions of people, including the most vulnerable. To tackle this, we developed our ‘Reporting Taboos’ programme, to help journalists around the world produce accurate, impartial coverage that brings taboo subjects into the open. With our assistance, one reporter from Botswana produced a piece on intersex people, while another in Nicaragua revealed how women are frequently locked out of land ownership by their fathers and husbands. This story was distributed via the Reuters news wire, reaching an estimated readership of 1 billion people.

CHAMPIONING CROSS-BORDER COLLABORATION

Teaming up enables journalists to learn new reporting techniques, while increasing their network of contacts and resources. It also allows reporters from different political and economic backgrounds to build bridges, create mutual understanding, and tell stories that would not otherwise come to light. Thanks to funding from the Robert Bosch Stiftung, we delivered 16 courses on Economic and Political Reporting bringing together 170 journalists from across the Balkans. Through Perspektivy, our multi-year Russian-language programme, we trained nearly 60 journalists across Russia, Eastern Europe and Central Asia.
FOSTERING JOURNALISM EXCELLENCE

REPORTING ON RESILIENCE

Ahead of the UN Habitat III conference in Quito in October 2016, we partnered with the Rockefeller Foundation to implement a specialised journalism training programme aimed at improving the coverage of resilience and urban development news across Africa and Asia. Training courses were organised in Thailand and Kenya, helping journalists understand the interrelation between all the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. Journalists were also asked to submit story ideas. The ten best pitches were registered to attend Habitat III and provided with guidance and further training. As a result, nearly 100 original, high-quality articles were published or broadcast.

MAKING AN IMPACT IN MYANMAR

Myanmar Now is an independent news service set up in 2015 by the Thomson Reuters Foundation to foster accurate reporting on domestic political reform and humanitarian issues across Myanmar. Following a months-long investigation by Myanmar Now reporters into domestic violence against women, the police and the National Human Rights commission were able to track down two young domestic workers violently abused in Yangon. As a result, the girls have been rescued, and their perpetrators put on trial, ending a decade of suffering.
INTERVIEW

NICOLAS BELLET
Director of Media Development and Training,
Thomson Reuters Foundation

2016 has been a year of innovation for the Media Development programme. Can you share some of the highlights?

We trained 700 journalists last year and developed new courses to respond to the needs of reporters on the ground. I’m thinking of two programmes in particular: Following International Aid Money (held in Nairobi) and Sports Investigative Journalism in South America ahead of the Rio 2016 Olympics. Both were very well received and led to the publication of good stories that were picked up by international media.

We also launched our Tomorrow’s News programme, helping newsrooms in the developing world make the most of digital media on a tight budget. We engaged senior figures from 16 African and Asian news outlets in an intensive workshop, and we will go on to provide in-house training for at least four of these. In one Kenyan newsroom, they reported a trebling in the hits on their online stories after applying our guidance on headline writing. Finally, we have fine tuned our mentoring process whereby trainees receive ongoing support from senior journalists. The objective is that every participant publishes a story or an investigation following a course with the Foundation.

Q Journalism training is arguably more vital than ever. Which regions have you focused on in 2016?

A We always try to go to new places. In 2016, we’ve held courses for the first time in Papua New Guinea, the Central African Republic and Cape Verde. The last two were part of our Wealth of Nations programme where we help African journalists report on the oil industry and the abuse of tax laws. We also make sure that our programmes reach journalists in remote
places. Last year for instance, we organised 6 courses across Morocco on reporting the new Sustainable Development Goals so that Moroccan media were fully prepared when their country hosted the COP 22 conference on climate change.

The Foundation also runs a corporate training programme. What makes it different from other training solutions?

First – all proceeds from our corporate training courses are reinvested in the Foundation’s philanthropic activities. This is a huge plus for our clients. They also know that all our courses have been delivered to and very well received internally by our Thomson Reuters colleagues. This is a guarantee of quality.

And unlike other training institutions, we are truly global, capable of delivering courses in seven languages in most locations around the world. Our portfolio is also expanding with over 100 courses including marketing, social media and strategic communications – all available through workshops and e-learning.

What are you looking forward to for 2017?

First and foremost I look forward to seeing Nazanin Zaghari-Ratcliffe being released from jail in Iran. She is a part of the Media Development team and all of us at the Foundation profoundly resent the injustice of her detention.

On the brighter side, we have plans for exciting programmes at the cutting edge of journalism: cross-border collaboration on migration stories, reporting post-epidemics, covering LGBT issues, and a promising partnership to boost multimedia reporting. It’s going to be another busy year!
STRATEGIC TRAINING SOLUTIONS

Drawing on the values, expertise and global footprint of Thomson Reuters, we bring innovative training solutions to companies, governments and organisations around the world. Our courses are designed to make an immediate impact thanks to an interactive approach which offers fresh case studies and allows for instant feedback. Our offering ranges from standard courses to in-house training solutions to bespoke programmes and online tutorials. All proceeds from our commercial training activities fund our core philanthropic work.
This year, we unveiled a brand new training directory, delivering courses in more locations than ever. We now offer over 100 courses divided between seven skills areas: Communications; Strategic Communications; Presentation Specialist Areas; Media & Journalism; Writing; Copywriting; Digital & Marketing.
7 TOPICS

180 COURSES
TRAINING WITH IMPACT

INFLUENCING

The most successful of all our one-day workshops, Effective Communication Skills for Influencers, is designed to enhance persuasion skills. Participants learn to structure convincing arguments and convey persuasive messages tailored to different audiences.

MEDIA TRAINING

From CEOs preparing for a crucial TV interview to seeing a press release have media pick-up, this course is for anyone seeking to deliver impactful, concise messages in a calm manner and facing the media with confidence. Participants gain an understanding of the media’s needs, practise interviews on camera, and learn to write fresh and interesting press releases that will get noticed.
This advanced course is ideal for practising professionals whose responsibilities include PR writing, internal communications and repurposing content across digital and social media platforms. Participants in our Advanced Digital Writing course learn to produce compelling content that gives them the best results when contributing to online communications, blogs or their organisation’s website.

TRENDING

This one-day workshop is designed to help professionals draft a high-impact social media strategy. Participants learn how to identify and pick the right social media tools for their business, target key audiences and engage in multi-media storytelling, ensuring that reputation and compliance risks are mitigated.
The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ) is a research centre for international comparative journalism. Set up in 2006 as part of the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford, the RISJ provides an independent forum for journalists and scholars worldwide.
With a long-standing history, a prestigious advisory board, and a growing number of international fellows, the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism is a centre of excellence for academic research on the future of journalism worldwide.
THE RT HON LORD PATTEN OF BARNES  
CH, Chancellor of the University of Oxford

ARIANNA HUFFINGTON  
Co-founder, Huffington Post, Founder & CEO, Thrive Global

MARTY BARON  
Executive Editor, The Washington Post

MICHAEL PARKS  
Professor of Journalism and International Relations, Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, University of Southern California

MARK THOMPSON  
Chief Executive and President, The New York Times Company

VIVIAN SCHILLER  
Former Global Chair of News, Twitter

SYLVIE KAUFFMANN  
Editorial Director, Le Monde

RICHARD INGLEWOOD  
Chairman, CN Group

STEPHEN ANSOLABEHERE  
Professor of Political Sciences, Harvard University

BILL EMMOTT  
Former Editor, The Economist

MADHAV CHINNAPPA  
Director of Strategic Relations for News and Publishers, Google

JOHN LLOYD  
Contributing Editor, The Financial Times

CAMPBELL BROWN  
Head of News Partnerships, Facebook

RITU KAPUR  
Co-founder and CEO, Quintillion Media

CARLO DE BENEDETTI  
Chairman, Gruppo Editoriale, L’Espresso/La Repubblica

ALEXANDRA FÖDERL-SCHMID  
Editor-in-Chief, Der Standard

JIMMY MAYMANN,  
Executive Vice President and President, AOL Content & Consumer Brands

BARONESS WHEATCROFT OF BLACKHEATH  
Former Editor-in-Chief, Wall Street Journal Europe

TIM GARDAM  
Chief Executive of the Nuffield Foundation
EXPERTISE AND IMPACT

2016 saw the Digital News Report expand to become the Digital News Project. A larger team of researchers explored digital developments across 26 countries and, in June, the Reuters Institute released eight industry-focused reports, alongside its flagship Digital News Report. The Digital News Project is the biggest international research project examining cross-national developments in journalism and news media, combining the annual Reuters Institute Digital News Report with a range of additional publications looking at journalistic innovation and news media strategy across the world.

“We know for a fact that the same technological trends have different implications in different countries. The Digital News Project is aimed at understanding these differences better, and at helping journalists and media decision-makers navigating a rapidly changing environment.”

- Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, RISJ Director of Research
THE ULTIMATE MEDIA FORUM

In April 2016, the Reuters Institute gathered top news executives from 14 countries to share their ideas and experience on the key challenges of digital transformation.

The forum brought together a dozen established publishers and two digital brands. The group was joined by Alan Rusbridger, former Editor in Chief of the Guardian and Chair of the Reuters Institute Steering Committee. Issues covered included approaches to dealing with digital intermediaries, the use of online metrics in the newsroom, and leadership priorities for innovation in the media.

“The gathering is testament to the role the Reuters Institute plays in facilitating dialogue between industry leaders and researchers. This was the third such meeting held here; the Institute has established itself as a valued and unique forum for a frank exchange of ideas in a time of rapid industry change.”

- David Levy, Director, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism
INTERVIEW

BAHAAR JOYA
RISJ Fellow and Broadcast Journalist at BBC Persian

**Q** Why did you choose to apply for a fellowship at the RISJ?

**A** As a journalist, I have always tried to document some of the social issues women are struggling with, from the right to education and work, to the fight to break social taboos. Joining BBC Persia in my home country of Afghanistan gave me a great opportunity to highlight some of these issues and to bring them to a global audience. But there were some unique stories which required more research and time to conduct specialised academic work. This made me consider a short-term fellowship programme abroad. I heard about the RISJ fellowship from a colleague at the BBC, and applied for it.

**Q** Can you tell us a little about the research you are currently conducting?

**A** Social media can act as a catalyst, changing the mindsets and perceptions of societies, especially where there have been traditional restrictions. The research I am working on discusses the struggle faced by the women of Afghanistan throughout history to achieve their basic rights as individuals. It focuses on the impact of social media on social taboos, and the changes it has brought to the lives of this marginalised section of Afghan society. My preliminary results show that many women believe social media is facilitating a more broad-minded society. However, it also shows that despite growing awareness among women of their rights, and despite the increased possibilities for women to communicate with others, discrimination and violence towards them continues to be high across Afghan society.

**Q** Many people attribute the rise of new media to the decline of traditional standards of journalism in Western countries. What effect has new media had in a context like Afghanistan?

**A** In Afghanistan, social media has enabled people to access and share news, even in the most remote areas. It has opened many aspects of Afghan society to external and internal scrutiny and broken the wall of silence that shrouded the country for so long. Afghanistan is a highly
patriarchal, conservative and traditional society. In the past, violence and persecution against women were rarely discussed or punished by law, but now news rarely remains untold. New media has allowed women to expose the truth publicly, and has created a platform for men and women to communicate and interact with each other. The process is still at its very beginning, but I believe that new media is empowering the wider society to understand and assert their human rights. In particular, allowing women to build strong networks and to campaign for solidarity and social justice.

Q What do you hope to take away from your time as a fellow? And what impact would you like your research to achieve?

A As an RISJ fellow, I found myself at the centre of a world-leading institute, where I was able to broaden my understanding of global issues, and to learn from other fellows from around the world. When I arrived in Oxford, I had two goals: to articulate the issue of breaking taboos using social media in my country through a research paper, and to deliver this message to the world. I feel lucky to have achieved both these goals during my time at the RISJ. I was also able to share my research with a global audience at the Trust Women conference. I am confident that publishing my research paper will contribute to putting the issues on the local and international news agenda.

Q What has been the highlight of your time at the RISJ?

A The biggest highlight was being part of one of the most prestigious academic institutions in the world, with access to a well-resourced library, an environment conducive to research, excellent supervisors, and fellow journalists from around the world whose experience I could learn from. This could only have happened at Oxford. Another big highlight was being introduced to the Thomson Reuters Foundation, which led to me sharing my work at the Trust Women conference. This had a great impact on my work.
2016: THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

- $85M in pro bono legal help
- 2,700 Trustlaw connections
- 3,600 Trustlaw members
- 600 New Trustlaw members
- 700 Journalists trained
- 68 Journalism courses
- 14 RISJ publications
- 700 Trust Women delegates
- 7 Awards
How we raised our money in 2016

**DONATIONS**
The Foundation received an annual donation of £4M in 2016 from Thomson Reuters to support its core programmes. It also received donations from other corporations, law firms, individuals and through legacies.

**PROGRAMME FUNDING**
Income received to support the organisation’s core programmes. Funders over £50K in the financial year included:

- The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad)
- The UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO)
- Robert Bosch Stiftung GmbH
- The Rockefeller Foundation
- Omidyar Network Fund
- C&A Foundation
- Deutsche Bank
- American Jewish World Service
- Overseas Development Institute (ODI)
- World Vision UK
- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

**GIFTS IN KIND**
Donations of services and facilities from third parties include office space, advertising, and support staff from Thomson Reuters, professional services from other corporations, and support with our marketing and advertising.

**INCOME-GENERATING COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES**
The Foundation carries out media and journalism training through its trading arm Reuters Foundation Consultants Ltd. All profits raised are reinvested back into Thomson Reuters Foundation.

*Based on unaudited numbers*
THE FOUNDATION IS GRATEFUL TO

The Foundation is grateful to all our partners and supporters. Those contributing more than £25K for Trust Women included: White & Case, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), The Stardust Foundation, Humanity United, Baker & McKenzie, AB InBev and Swarovski.

We are also deeply grateful for the generous support of Friends of the Foundation. Those contributing more than £25K included: Linklaters.

How we used our charitable resources in 2016

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<td>MEDIA DEVELOPMENT AND REUTERS INSTITUTE</td>
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<td>TRUST WOMEN</td>
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We support our work through a combination of core annual donation from Thomson Reuters, other donations and sponsorships, through external funding from other organisations as well as grants specifically dedicated to supporting our core programmes. All proceeds from our income-generating commercial activities are reinvested in the Foundation’s philanthropic activities.
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2016

A YEAR OF INNOVATION