# Digital Citizenship and Surveillance Society: UK State-Media-Citizen Relations After the Snowden Leaks

## Guideline for journalists’ interviews: Practice and views on Snowden coverage, surveillance, press freedom, and the media-state relation

1. **Intro**

Recording, limited/no (?) anonymity, use of findings and quotes in academic publications

Project goal: To understand how journalists think about and have responded to the events following the Snowden leaks. Both, in practice and to get your broader, personal view.

1. **Individual experience**

* Could you tell us about your own experience as a journalist?
  + How long have you been working for your news outlet? What kind of stories do you tend to cover?
* What does the term surveillance mean to you? Would you consider the collection of online data surveillance?
* What kinds of privacy risks are there associated with your work?
  + Do you use any tools to secure your communications with for example sources? If so what?
* Your experience covering the Snowden leaks/surveillance stories:
  + When you think of the **article** you wrote on …
  + Could you describe how you started working on covering this story at the very beginning?
  + Was it your own decision?
  + Was/How was the decision made in the editorial office?
  + What kind of sources did you use when covering this story?
  + Was there a particular view point you wanted to take in this article?
  + What would you say is the “take home message” of this article?

1. **The Snowden story and press freedom**

* What are *your* views on what Snowden did?
* What are your views on the destruction of the Guardian’s hard drives?
* What did you think about the detention of David Miranda (give brief description if they don’t know the story)
  + Do you think the detention of David Miranda was justified? Why/why not?
* What, in your view, are the major consequences if any, of the Snowden revelations for British society?
* What would you have done with the *Snowden files* if you were Ewen MacAskill or one of the journalists meeting Snowden ?
* How would your news outlet have dealt with the Snowden files?

1. **Surveillance and media-state relation**

* In your own opinion how do you think corporate and state surveillance/bulk data collection has been covered in the media in general?
  + What do you think the public knows about surveillance?
  + How did your readers react and think about this kind of surveillance?
  + What do you think the public’s view is on mass surveillance in the UK?
* How has mass surveillance been covered by your news organisation?
* In your view, what forms of surveillance acceptable or unacceptable? Why/why not/under what circumstances?
  + What are your thoughts on the kind of surveillance the state undertakes?
  + Where do you see the balance between privacy and national security when it comes to surveillance?
  + Do you think state leaders/governments should have special protection from surveillance?
  + Do you think press freedom has been affected by what’s happened since the Snowden revelations?

1. **Wrap-up**

* Would you say that the Snowden revelations, the David Miranda case, the Lee Rigby murder, or Charlie Hebdo have changed how your view with regards to:
  + The relationship between privacy and national security?
  + The relationship between media and the state?
* How have the Snowden revelations impacted on how you carry out your work?
  + Have you changed how you communicate with sources?
  + Store information?
  + Do you think that the government has collected data about your activities?
* How worried are you about your online/digital security and data?

• Is there anything else you would like to add?