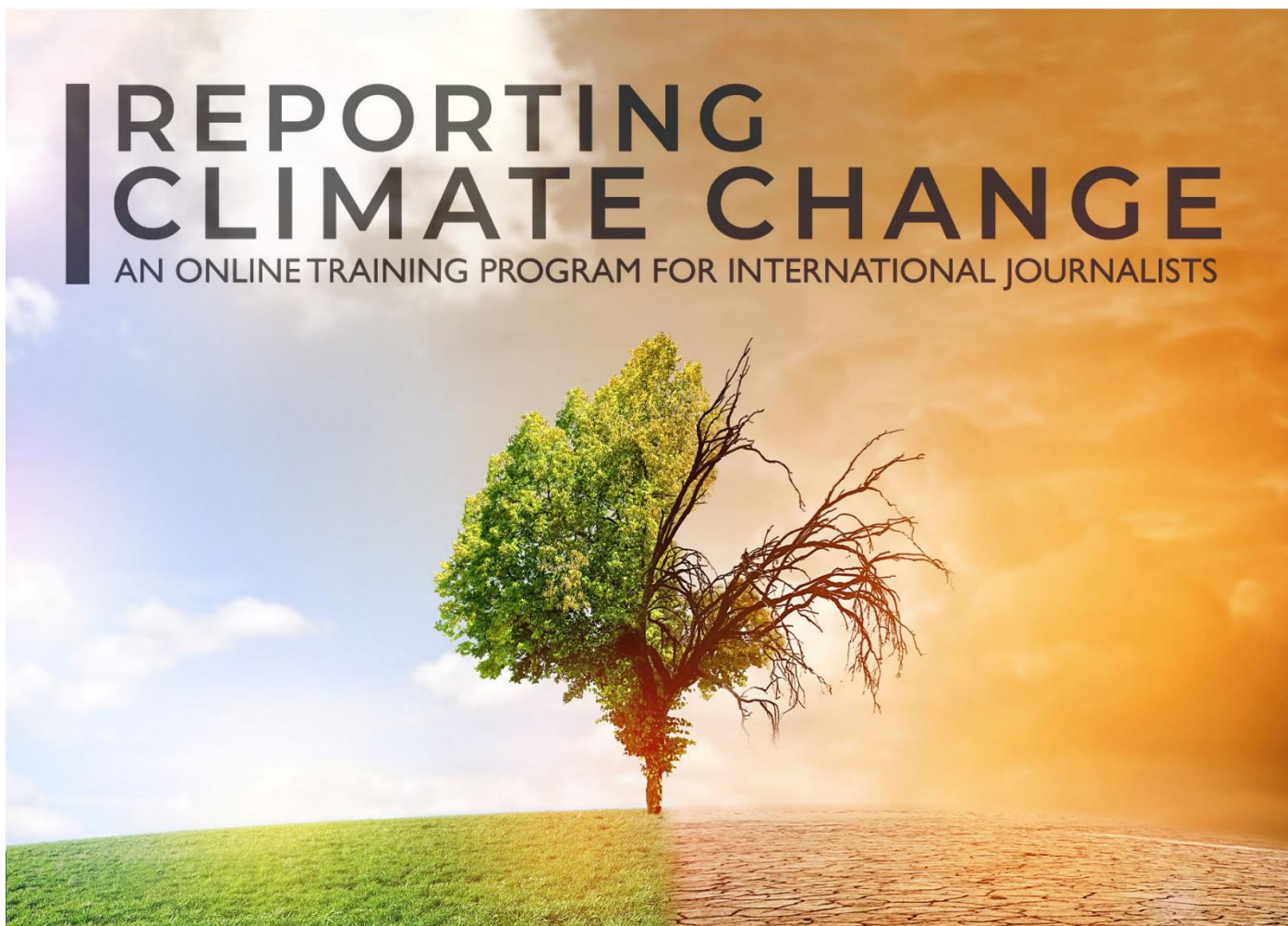


REPORTING CLIMATE CHANGE

AN ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL JOURNALISTS



WITH THE
SUPPORT OF



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CONTEXT

Since 2015 **COPEAM**, with the support of the **EIB - European Investment Bank**, organizes annual international activities open to TV, radio and press journalists on the topic of climate change and sustainable development. These initiatives are aimed at reinforcing the journalists' knowledge and professional skills and thus at promoting a quality information about climate and environment.

These actions generally take place on the occasion of the United Nations' annual summits on climate change known as "COP" (Conference of Parties). Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) has been postponed to November 2021 in Glasgow/Scotland.

Climate change is an international agenda's topical issue. It is the *"defining issue of our time and we are at a defining moment. From shifting weather patterns that threaten food production, to rising sea levels that increase the risk of catastrophic flooding, the impacts of climate change are global in scope and unprecedented in scale"*¹. In particular, the Mediterranean area represents a delicate ecosystem and it is highly susceptible to climate change variations induced by global warming. The changes in climate will have to be dealt with as a challenge for the economic, social and productive systems and as an opportunity to accelerate cooperation between countries, in particular between the two shores of the Mediterranean.

All this considered, in order to keep contributing to the promotion of a **reliable and quality information** about climate change, environment and sustainable development in the region, COPEAM and the EIB have developed an **international e-learning course: "Reporting Climate Change"**. This training opportunity is open to radio, TV and press journalists operating in the MENA, Balkan and Gulf regions.

To produce and deliver this training course, COPEAM has worked in close cooperation with a higher-education partner specialised in e-learning: the **International Telematic University UNINETTUNO**². The training program adopts the model of teaching and learning online of the UNINETTUNO University.

¹ www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/climate-change/

² www.uninettunouniversity.net/en/default.aspx

THE TRAINING COURSE

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- **Raising awareness** among the information professionals on the implications of climate change and of the related sustainable development challenges, in particular those concerning the Mediterranean Region;
- Providing the trainees with an **accurate overview of the international legal framework**, the international bodies operating in this field, the current negotiations within the UN (COP), the main agreements and shared goals, the energy transition's challenges, etc.;
- Strengthening the journalists' **reporting skills** about climate change issues.

DIDACTIC CONTENTS

The didactic contents have been organised into 3 modules/parts including video-lessons (and related slides) and multimedia supporting material: the first one devoted to **climate change and its challenges**, the second to **effective media reporting**, and the third one to **experiences and case studies** (*see the full didactic programme attached*).

Part I and part II consist in a series of **10 video-lessons** (25/40 minutes each), specifically conceived and produced for this project by the **2 main trainers** appointed by COPEAM: Ahmed Kandil (Al-Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies) and Kevin Burden (senior environmental journalist and trainer).

As for part III, it is composed by a series of videos with **experiences and case studies** from the points of view of qualified professionals in terms of profiles and backgrounds.

WORKING LANGUAGES

The video-lessons are available in **English** and **Arabic** (with voice-over or original language). The extra training material is in English.

STUDY METHODOLOGY AND FINAL CERTIFICATION

The didactic contents will be accessible 24/7 on Uninettuno platform.

The course is based on the trainees' individual work with the support of a **professor-tutor**.

The trainees will be asked by the professor/tutor to write **2 short essays** in English (1 on topics related to PART I and 1 on topics related to PART II).

Periodic joint meetings (forums on the didactic platform and Zoom meetings) will be organized.

At the end of the training programme, participants who have completed the course will be awarded with a **final certification** signed by COPEAM, Uninettuno University and the European Investment Bank.

TIMING

The selection of the candidates will be completed by end of April 2021 (*deadline 30.04.21*).

The online training course will be launched mid-May 2021, for a total period of **6 weeks**.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

The course aims at improving the trainees' skills so to make them able to:

- spread more effectively scientific information and make it accessible and understandable to the large public;
- deliver clear and relevant messages tailored to the local context;
- raise the citizens' awareness about the current debate at both international and national level (ex. national adaptation plans and policies) concerning the environmental and climate challenges;
- promote local good practices and virtuous and responsible behaviors among their national publics.

PARTICIPATION CONDITIONS AND APPLICATIONS

Participation is **free of charge**.

The training is open to **journalists** coming from the **Balkans**, the **MENA** and the **Gulf regions** who meet the following criteria:

- Working as professional journalists or having completed higher education studies in the field;
- Being based in the MENA region, the Balkans or the Gulf;
- With a very good level of English;
- With background knowledge about climate and environment-related issues;
- Priority to those aged up to 40 years.

Candidates must be motivated in completing the whole course.

Places are limited. Interested journalists must send their **CV** no later than **30 April 2021** to the following addresses:

Micol Pancaldi mpancaldi@copeam.org

Serena Laruffa slaruffa@copeam.org

Selected candidates will be contacted and informed about the enrollment procedure in the didactic platform (personal user&password and admission number) and the following project steps.

Watch here the course's video trailer!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bQBCKG8sGDo>

OVERVIEW

- Category: Journalism training course / e-learning
- Organizer: COPEAM with the support of the EIB (European Investment Bank)
- Partner: International Telematic University UNINETTUNO
- Venue: Online: e-Learning platform of UNINETTUNO University / Zoom platform
- Duration of the online training course: 6 weeks (starting from mid-May 2021)
- Beneficiaries: journalists operating in the Balkans, the MENA and the Gulf regions
- Working Languages: English and Arabic (with voice-over or original language)
- Deadline for applications: **30 APRIL 2021**



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