

## PRESS RELEASE

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### TechWatch: Bridging the Gap between Technology and Human Rights

The Czech NGO [Prague Centre for Media Skills \(PCMS\)](#) proudly unveils *"TechWatch: Enhancing the Response to Human Rights Challenges in the Digital World"*, a pioneering venture in collaboration with [Electronic Frontier Norway \(EFN\)](#) and academic and technology expert Øyvind Hanssen. This project aims to build the expertise of professionals in media, business, and computer science throughout Norway and the Czech Republic.

Building on the success of the just-completed Czech-Norwegian project (*"Promoting Human Rights in the Digital Era"*) funded by [Norway Funds](#) and developed mainly in the Czech Republic, "TechWatch" will act as a catalyst for discussion of the digital domain's impact on human rights. The initiative will roll out a series of seminars and expert panels with academic, media and NGO representatives in Norway, fostering bilateral collaboration.

Adriana Dergam, PCMS Project Coordinator, emphasises the project's core ethos: *"In our digital era, shared risks necessitate shared solutions. 'TechWatch' is our bridge for knowledge exchange and cross-border dialogue."*

EFN's Executive Director, Tom Fredrik Blenning, stresses the significance of this international synergy: *"This project embodies the spirit of global collaboration, steering technology towards respecting and uplifting human rights."*

Associate professor Øyvind Hanssen of [UiT The Arctic University of Norway](#) emphasises the project's educational potential: *"TechWatch' contributes by offering valuable tools and perspectives that aid in weaving human rights considerations into our academic curricula."*

Frank Williams, PCMS Chair and former BBC and RFE/RL editor, focuses on the media perspective: *"TechWatch' highlights the profound impact of technology on media, from newsroom practices to the education of journalism students."*

As the project unfolds, PCMS and its partners are committed to strengthening civil society advocacy and the watchdog role, addressing the challenges of an increasingly digitised world.

#### Information for Editors:

The TechWatch project is being supported by the Open Society Fund Prague, Committee of Good Will – Olga Havel Foundation and Czech Scouting Institute within the Active Citizens Fund program, aimed at supporting civil society and strengthening the capacity of non-profit organisations. The program is financed by the EEA and Norway Grants.

For more information, visit [www.praguemediaskills.org](http://www.praguemediaskills.org) and [www.activecitizensfund.cz](http://www.activecitizensfund.cz).

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