

---

**From:** Sonja Pace  
**Sent:** Friday, June 01, 2012 9:40 PM  
**To:** Steve Redisch  
**Subject:** RE: Voice of America issue at UN

Yes, have run across those types ... the way they are. I figure UN or other officials can take care of themselves. I knew a colleague (terribly respected and NYT -- almost got us all killed in DRC, but never mind) and he brought a UN official to near tears because of his badgering. Alas, we knew it was just the way he was. I will say the guy wrote dynamite stories. But, want to find out what's behind this particular issue. Have forwarded the guy's initial note to Margaret and waiting for her reply. Keep you posted.

Other Issue -- Non-responsive information thanks

---

**From:** Steve Redisch  
**Sent:** 01 June 2012 16:53  
**To:** Sonja Pace  
**Subject:** Re: Voice of America Issue at UN

Thanks. Puzzling that Margaret would take up against a reporter who would, according to just one source, be aggressively questioning UN officials and would call on him to write more positive stories about the UN. Reminds me of Les Kinsolving at the WH. He had the most hairbrained questions, but that was Les.

Steve Redisch  
VOA Executive Editor

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 1, 2012, at 2:59 PM, "Sonja Pace" <[paces@voanews.com](mailto:paces@voanews.com)> wrote:

Yes, David Jones sent me a note about this earlier in the day and was actually going to send on to you for info. No idea what happened here and Margaret is on leave. Am sending the guy's rebuke along to her to find out what went on here.

Keep you posted.  
Sonja

---

**From:** Steve Redisch  
**Sent:** Friday, June 01, 2012 11:15 AM  
**To:** Kyle King; Lynne Weil; Barbara Brady; Rebecca McMnamin; Sonja Pace  
**Cc:** Susan Andross; William Marsh  
**Subject:** RE: Voice of America Issue at UN

Sonja Pace is now looped in on this issue and she should deal with this.

---

**From:** Kyle King  
**Sent:** Friday, June 01, 2012 11:11 AM  
**To:** Lynne Weil; Barbara Brady; Steve Redisch; Rebecca McMnamin

**Cc:** Susan Andross; William Marsh  
**Subject:** RE: Voice of America Issue at UN

Just realized after trying all her numbers, Margaret is on vacation in England till next week. Found out from her email away message. If she responds will pass the info along asap.

Kyle B. King, VOA Public Relations  
Office (202) 203-4959  
Direct (202) 203-4963  
Cell (202) 684-5165  
[www.insidevoa.com](http://www.insidevoa.com)  
[www.VOAnews.com](http://www.VOAnews.com)

---

**From:** Lynne Weil  
**Sent:** Friday, June 01, 2012 9:50 AM  
**To:** Barbara Brady; Kyle King  
**Cc:** Susan Andross  
**Subject:** FW: Voice of America Issue...

Barbara, Kyle –

A former colleague on the Hill has flagged this matter as a courtesy, and says it has potential to kick up some trouble in Congress.

The UN Correspondents' Association is moving to expel a member whose apparent aggressiveness in interviewing a UN official prompted a UNCA investigation. A letter informing the reporter of this procedure was signed by five UNCA members, including a VOA journalist. That VOA journalist purportedly didn't hear the accused's side of the story, and allegedly had rebuked the organization for which he works – Inner City Press – for its pursuit of topics that cast the UN in a harsh light. In case you're not familiar with it, Inner City Press is a UN watchdog that's well known in Turtle Bay both for stirring up needless trouble and for turning over rocks where important stories sometimes come scampering out.

All this and more is found in the blog item below by Matt Lee of Inner City Press, so take it with a grain of salt. The key thing is that on a slow Friday on the Hill this sort of thing can take on a life of its own. I advise checking it out; and if you do, please let me know if there's anything to be said about it.

Lynne

---

**Sent:** Friday, June 01, 2012 9:33 AM  
**To:** Lynne Weil  
**Subject:** FW: Voice of America issue...

---

**From:**  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 31, 2012 6:35 PM  
**To:**  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** RE: Voice of America issue...

Here is what Lee posted on his site. On the one hand, I don't like the idea of getting involved in an intra-press squabble, but on the other, Lee has broken a lot of key stories over the years and his oversight, while idiosyncratic, has been relentless.

## UN Move to Expel ICP Led by 5 Big Media, For Ban Ki-moon, France, Lanka

By Matthew Russell Lee

UNITED NATIONS, May 29 -- Four hours after UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's Peacekeeping chief Herve Ladsous refused on camera to answer Inner City Press' questions about documented charges that his Department introduced cholera into Haiti, and has Sri Lanka alleged war criminal general Shavendra Silva as an adviser, **representatives of five media organizations presented charges to eject Inner City Press.**

Video of Ladsous' refusal to answer is here, Minute 28:10.

The subsequently disclosed five signers of the charge letter to set up a "board of examination" to "investigate" Inner City Press with the goal of expelling the Press include not only Louis Charbonneau of Reuters and Timothy Witcher of Agence France Presse (as explained below, a major Ladsous supporter or tool).

**Now they have expanded to five, with Flavia Krause-Jackson of Bloomberg, Talal Al-Haj of Al-Arabia and Margaret Besheer of Voice of America, the Treasurer of UNCA who was not present for Tuesday afternoon's move toward expulsion.**

**Despite not hearing the defense, "proxy" votes by Besheer, Masood Haider reportedly of Pakistan's Daily Dawn and seemingly others were counted against Inner City Press.**

**Besheer has previously rebuked Inner City Press to write "more positively" about the UN, while devoting much focus to the British and other royals.**

During Tuesday afternoon's session, Bloomberg's Flavia Krause-Jackson told Inner City Press, We're not *talking* about giving evidence... we do not like your attitude.

Referring to Tuesday's stonewalling by Ban's Peacekeeping chief, another UNCA Executive Committee member told Inner City Press, "What you did today with Mr. Ladsous was a big no-no... That will come and haunt you."

Inner City Press asked if the *no-no* was insisting that a UN Under Secretary General getting paid hundreds of thousands of dollars a year should be expected to answer questions about introducing cholera into Haiti, and accepting a war criminal as an adviser.

UNCA President Giampaolo said *we should jump up and defend you* -- but UNCA didn't. Nor did any one else on the UNCA Executive Committee report on Ladsous' proposal to the C-34 Committee that the UN should use drones, which Inner City Press broke then got further confirmed, to Ladsous' displeasure.

By this logic, it would be fine with these five if Ban Ki-moon stopped answering Press questions and expelled critical non-corporate media.