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EU declining in World Press Freedom rankings

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By Rachel McAthy

Press freedom in European Union member countries is deteriorating overall, Reporters Without Borders warned today following the release of its 2010 World Press Freedom Index.

The annual index of 178 countries, which is in its ninth year, measures violations of press freedom across the globe and is based on events between 1 September 2009 and 1 September 2010.

It is compiled by assigning a score and position to each country based on responses to a questionnaire handed out to partner organisations of Reporters Without Borders, its network of 140 correspondents worldwide, as well as journalists, researchers, legal professionals and human rights activists.

According to the group, the report confirms fears that press freedom is "deteriorating" in the European Union.

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