

I promised to give you Hell

Editor-in-Chief Pål Steigan's speech at the Hell Conference on Feb 11, 2023

- by Pål Steigan, Feb 12, 2023, [LINK](#)



Hellkonferansen on Feb. 11, 2023. From left Trond Andresen, Pål Steigan, Helge Lurås, Reidun Kjelling Nybø and Vebjørn Selbekk / Photo: Bente Haarstad

I would like to thank the Hellkonferansen and the organizing committee for inviting me here to criticize the Norwegian media. And I would like to thank the editor-in-chief of M24 for attacking this and thereby demonstrating one of my points, namely that in Norwegian media you want a ceiling height that is such that adults cannot stand upright.

In terms of circulation and readership, Steigan.no is a medium-sized online newspaper. We had 32 million page views last year. Before Facebook choked us in April, we reached 340,000 people in a four-week period. Our subscription numbers increased by 50% last year. We have published over 500 writers from five continents and we are downloaded worldwide.

But first I want to grill you over slow heat. You have sinned against the ten commandments of journalism, and committed the seven deadly sins of journalism, so it is necessary to clean up. When I say "you", I don't mean all of you, but only the 95% of you who have made yourselves microphone stands for the authorities, failed to dig into obvious unfairness and allowed gross violations of laws and rights to go unchallenged.

So my dear friends:

I have promised to give you Hell!

At the very end, I will show you a way out of this misery, a way to the salvation of your journalistic soul.

- You closed your eyes and looked the other way when the CIA staged a coup d'état against the legally elected president of Ukraine in close collaboration with Hitler-type Nazis. Had the press done its job at the time, we might have avoided the world war we are now unfortunately in.
- You shut up and let your keyboard rest when the Nazis in Ukraine massacred and burned to death Russian activists in the House of Trade Unions in Odessa and committed pogroms elsewhere.
- You have almost totally failed to reveal that many years ago Ukraine turned genocidals and Nazi collaborators into national heroes and their ideology into state ideology. You are not alone here. If it can be any consolation, Bernt Hagtvet and the HL center on Bygdøy have also kept quiet about this.
- The Norwegian media and the majority of Norwegian foreign journalists have been silent and lied about how the Gulf States, the US and NATO have used jihadists to destroy Syrian society and inflict enormous suffering on ordinary Syrians. The war has been going on for almost twelve years and the Norwegian media that have

taken the trouble to visit Syria can be counted on one hand.

- You have been largely silent on the horrific genocide in Yemen, and in particular on the responsibility of our allies for it.
- You have failed to dig into what happened when international finance capital decided to dump the biggest financial crisis in history on the people of the world to make themselves richer than ever.
- When Health Director Guldvog declared a de facto state of emergency in the form of an unprecedented closure of Norway, violated the Constitution on many points, set aside the rule of law and introduced the state of infection control, you did not ask a single critical question.
- You enthusiastically supported the lockdown, which cost Norwegian society hundreds of billions in losses. Similarly, you supported the orders to close schools and to introduce compulsory masks. This despite the fact that no respiratory virus in history has been stopped by lockdowns, school closures and face masks.
- Now that Elon Musk has opened Twitter files, we know that the CIA, the FBI and the Biden administration ordered the tech giants and social media to censor, remove and discredit some of the world's foremost specialists in immunology. You allowed it to happen and helped whip up unwarranted fears in society. The media played a central role in the fear campaign. Without you, it would never have gotten as bad as it did.
- The Norwegian media's resume through the corona crisis is one long and shameful betrayal of everything called free, independent and critical press. You should set up the journalists' own corona commission to investigate this tragedy.
- Just think of how you sat around lighting candles and seriously publicizing the Prime Minister's absurd order on how many people you were allowed to invite to a Christmas party or the Health Minister's promise that we will soon be allowed to hug each other again. It was pure madness - you should have made a laughing stock.
- When the gas pipeline to Germany in which Russia had invested 15 billion euros was blown up, most of you managed to write that "Putin did it", even though the US president had promised to stop this pipeline.
- Now the greatest living journalist, the man who exposed My Lai, Abu Ghraib and the secret arms shipments to the jihadists in Syria, Seymour Hersh, has revealed that the US and Norway were behind it. None of us can match that man in terms of investigative journalism.
- And what does the Norwegian press do? You do the only thing you can: They attack Hersh as a person and try to make people forget his documentation.
- We are now de facto in the Third World War. It won't take much before it becomes a nuclear war that can wipe out humanity and civilization as we know it.
- And what does the press do? You are stirring up war, demonizing Russians and Putin in a way that we have hardly seen since the violent war campaign in England before the First World War.
- Many of you have made yourselves tools of the military-industrial complex and are thus complicit.

But I promised you a way to salvation. And it is simple.

- Stop being microphone stands for power.
- The more power people have, the more critical you should be.
- Follow the money to see who is profiting from this misery.
- Be as open-minded as possible. Invite opposing views to wrestle with each other.
- In short: become journalists again. Comply with the letter and spirit of the Code of Conduct.

You will find it liberating and satisfying.

There is a catch, of course, and that is that the capital groups that own their media, many of whom also own the war industry, will not be too happy.

Welcome back to journalism, as you have promised readers and viewers to practice the profession.

When your conspiracies ruin a conversation, but you know it was well worth it..



NEVER WORRY about who will be offended if you speak the TRUTH. Worry about who will be misled, deceived & destroyed if you don't.



DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT HOW YOUR OPINIONS MAKE PEOPLE FEEL?



No.