



REDE MOÇAMBICANA DOS
DEFENSORES DE DIREITOS HUMANOS

RMDDH



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Frontline Journalism Courage Award



- In an age where journalism is increasingly under siege, **Sheila Wilson** stands as a beacon of integrity, courage, and unshakable commitment to the truth. Through her fearless reporting and unwavering focus on human rights, social justice, and democratic accountability, she has emerged as one of Mozambique’s most courageous and influential journalists.

Sheila has become the voice of the voiceless — bringing to public attention stories that the system seeks to suppress. It was through her live reporting that the world first saw the extent of police repression during protests in Mozambique. Her broadcasts, streamed in real-time, revealed the disproportionate use of force, arbitrary

detentions, and other grave human rights violations, reaching millions both inside and beyond the country.

Her work has not only informed — it has protected. Protesters’ safety often hinged on the visibility she provided, exposing abuses as they happened and forcing institutions to respond.

Key Moments in Her Journey

June 4, 2024 – While covering a peaceful demonstration by former agents of the defunct National Popular Security Service outside the UNDP office in Maputo, Sheila was arbitrarily detained by police. During her live broadcast, she was violently confronted, her phone was seized, and she was taken without warrant. At the station, she was verbally abused and intimidated.

October 2024 to January 2025 – Amid post-electoral protests triggered by allegations of electoral fraud, Sheila remained on the frontlines. In Maputo and Matola, she documented and broadcast demonstrations in real time, despite facing threats, surveillance, and censorship. In one alarming incident, a soldier affiliated with the Presidency violently snatched her phone in a blatant act of aggression against press freedom.

Through it all, Sheila never backed down. She continued to report on the use of live ammunition against unarmed civilians, targeted violence against journalists, and systemic violations of civil liberties — transforming her broadcasts into tools of both protection and resistance.

Well-Deserved Recognition

For her extraordinary bravery, uncompromising dedication to public interest, and resilience in the face of intimidation, Sheila Wilson is a worthy recipient of the Frontline Journalism Courage Award.

Her voice has echoed where silence was imposed. Her courage has stood where fear was meant to prevail. Her journalism has not only informed — it has defended lives, preserved memory, and dignified the fight for justice.

Sheila Wilson reminds us all: when journalism serves humanity, it becomes an act of resistance and a force for transformation.





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Almejamos um país livre e seguro para os Defensores dos Direitos Humanos, um ambiente favorável ao desenvolvimento das comunidades e ao envolvimento da juventude como potenciais Defensores dos Direitos Humanos.

We aspire to a nation where Human Rights defenders can operate freely and securely, fostering community development and empowering youth to become effective advocates for Human Rights.

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