



HEST – Hostile Environment Safety Training

A proactive safety course for journalists

Schloss Hexenagger, Munich, Germany



Journalists covering war zones, areas of civil unrest, urban uprisings and humanitarian crises are constantly under editorial pressure to bring breaking news to the world without being injured or killed in the process.

Even experienced journalists are rarely prepared for the challenges they face in extreme situations that push their abilities as professionals and as human beings to the limits. They are under permanent stress: while researching, developing and feeding their stories they must make split-second decisions that can affect their health, their security, or even their lives.

The dangers for journalists working in the field have significantly increased. The EBU Hostile Environment Safety Training (**HEST**) course addresses the questions, trauma and stress facing journalists and their crews when reporting from the world's most dangerous locations.

This unique course has been designed by journalists and developed by front-line media professionals and European special military forces to raise journalists' awareness and prepare them for hostile environments. A balanced mix of lectures, short practical exercises, discussions and real-life role-play gives participants the tools and knowledge they need to quickly and competently assess the situation.

"I always considered myself a complete amateur and now I know I was right. Although in the past I did a lot of things right by instinct, I now know that I never thought of 2000 other problems. The course was realistic and hammered in the fact that it is better to get away in one piece instead of staying a bit longer" from a former participant.

Course details

Who should attend

- Radio & TV journalists, cameramen, producers and engineers.
- Open to EBU Members and non-members alike.

Capacity

- 12 to 16 people

Objectives

- Identify your strengths and weaknesses when reporting from violent, hostile, dangerous environments and enable you to better assess the risks.
- Acquire essential tools to handle stress, safety and avoid danger to operate under extreme conditions.
- Exchange experiences in a stimulating environment.

Content

Journalists will prepare and feed stories under simulated hostile environments, in both rural and urban settings.

- Day 1: Foundation
- Day 2: Rural
- Day 3: Urban
- Day 4: Confirmation

Dates

Three dates are available:

- 8 to 11 March 2005
- 17 to 20 May 2005
- 5 to 8 July 2005

Each course starts at 9:00 on Tuesday and finishes at 16:30 on Friday. Participants are requested to arrive on Monday between 15:00 and 18:00.

Please note that it takes one hour to get from Munich airport to the course venue.

Venue

Hexenagger castle, Schlossbergstrasse 6, Hexenagger, Southern Germany

Working language

- English

Course fee / person

- EBU Members and freelancers sponsored by a member: 2750 €
- Non-members: 3300 €

Fee includes access to all sessions, course material, meals, accommodation and transfer between airport and training location. Fee does not include travel to Munich.

Journalism | EBU International Training

Course structure

Day 1: Foundation

Lectures on:

- Situation awareness and personal security (physical integrity and possessions) illustrated with real-life scenarios;
- Planning and preparing a story (including risk assessment, sourcing local intelligence, assessing local contacts);
- Basic life-support course (breathing, gunshot wounds, control of bleeding, burns, shock);
- Avoiding kidnap, surviving abduction: how to survive in captivity;
- Stress management / Post-traumatic stress disorder.

Day 2: Rural

Focus on practical training in a conflict environment.

Participants will have to identify, film/record, edit and feed a story while facing the following challenges:

- Mine, booby-trap and improvised explosive devices;
- Checkpoints (illegal, militia, conventional forces): techniques for negotiating safe passage and identifying early escalating dangers;
- Reacting under fire, surviving ambush and use of ground;

Day 3: Urban

Focus on practical training in civil disturbances.

Participants will have to identify, film/record, edit and feed a story while facing the following challenges:

- Ballistics awareness and selecting protective cover;
- Conflict management and defusing confrontation;
- Civil disturbance and riots; working securely in crowds;
- Negotiating urban checkpoints (by vehicle and on foot);
- Car bombs, blast injuries and stabbing.

Day 4: Consolidation

Techniques consolidated with discussion and further practice:

- Practical exercise in an integrated rural/urban scenario;
- Navigation (astral, map and compass, GPS, survival navigation techniques).
- Intermediate life-support instruction, complementing basic course from Day 1;
- Discussion of team and personal issues raised during the course.

The training team

Objective Team Ltd has been selected by a panel of EBU experts and advisors as the best prepared to offer hostile environment training for journalists and camera crews working in the field.

Objective Team Ltd has unique experience of operating in hostile environments. The team's professionals include former senior officers and trainers from European military Special Forces, front-line media professionals, and experts in secure business practices. Its news media clients include Channel 4 Documentary, Anglia & Granada TV, the Financial Times, Associated Newspapers, and many more.

EBU International Training

Quality standards

To ensure that the quality remains at its best, each training course is carefully assessed and evaluated following strictly identified guidelines.

Accreditation

Upon completion of the course, each participant will receive:

- A weather-proof on-site emergency aide memoire with critical data on the core training skills.
- A certificate of course completion enabling reduced insurance costs.

For further information, contact:

Nathalie Labourdette
Head, EBU International Training
E-mail: labourdette@ebu.ch
Tel.: +41 (0)22 717 21 46



Hostile Environment Safety Training

"Schloss Hexenagger", Munich, Germany

Personal details

First name: Last name:
Age: M / F
Function:
Company:
Address:
City/Postcode: Country:
...Tel.: Fax:
E-mail:

Choice of dates

Please tick as appropriate:

- from 8 to 11 March 2005
- from 17 to 20 May 2005
- from 5 to 8 July 2005

Professional details

Please describe the experience you have had in hostile environments (number of years, place, etc.):
.....
.....
.....
Likely area(s) of work:
.....
I have a personal insurance policy: Y / N
Special needs/comments (i.e. dietary requirements, known physical disability, etc.):
.....

Personal & work equipment

Please bring with you the following :

1. Your personal belongings when being sent to hostile areas: medical kit and prescriptions, protection gear (flaks, helmets), and clothes.
2. Your own recording or filming & editing equipment (i.e. digital DV camera or DAT equipment, laptop computer for editing) so that you can record or shoot and edit a story during the scenarios.
Please indicate equipment type:
.....
3. Tapes (footage, stories) or audiotapes (soundbites, stories) that you might have and which illustrate a hostile environment situation in which you were involved.

Yes, I confirm my participation in the 4-day "HEST" course.
 I have read and agree to the booking terms and conditions outlined overleaf.

Authorizer's signature: _____ Date:
Authorizer's name:



Order Form | EBU International Training

Hostile Environment Safety Training "Schloss Hexenagger", Munich, Germany

Payment – Booking terms & conditions

Fees

Course prices are per participant and include access to all sessions, course material, meals, accommodation and transfer between airport and training location.

However, all participants pay their own international travel.

- EBU Members and freelancers sponsored by an EBU Member: 2750 €
- Non-members: 3300 €

Registration form

This form constitutes a formal booking when duly completed, signed and sent back to our office.

No other means of reservation will be accepted. A confirmation of receipt will be sent to you by fax or e-mail.

Payment

An invoice will be issued to you by post. Payment is due upon receipt of invoice by bank transfer to the account mentioned on the invoice. Upon receipt of payment, a confirmation of booking with fixed dates will be sent to you by fax or e-mail.

Cancellations

Cancellations must be made at least 15 days prior to course commencement to avoid cancellation fees set out below:

- 8 to 15 days prior to commencement: 50% of course fee
- 1 to 7 days prior to commencement: 100% of course fee

Substitute participants will, however, be accepted at any time.

In case of force majeure or too few registrations, we reserve the right to cancel a course and will then refund the full course fee.

To register, please tear off this page and fax back to:
+41 (0) 22 7474 146 or post to:

EBU International Training
Case Postale 45
Ancienne Route 17
CH-1218 Grand-Saconnex (GE)
Switzerland