COVERING PROTESTS IN TEAMS

Based on experience of covering protests during the 2014 World Cup in Rio De Janeiro and São Paulo, Brazil

1. Initial meetings & Risk analysis
   - Lawyers, Filmers, Human rights observers

   Take inventory of your equipment
   - Make a list of your equipment and leave the list, along with photos of the gear, with a trustworthy attorney or friend
   - If your equipment is damaged or seized by the police, you will have a record of what you brought to the protest

   Undercover cops
   - Be aware of the presence of undercover cops
   - Share images of known undercover cops with other groups
   - Pay attention to their movements
   - Film their shoes (because they are harder to change out of quickly than a shirt or jacket)

   Police violence
   - Film the action from a “safe” angle, do not interfere
   - Don’t stop recording
   - Be sure to capture audio
   - Remember to film the wounded and get statements from medical personnel on site so they can give you medical details

   Initial meetings & Risk analysis
   - Apps: Try Periscope or Livestream to share live video

   Protest
   - Organizing during the protest ensures that you capture the greatest number of angles possible

   Emergency contacts & Safety protocols
   - List emergency contacts (including family and trustworthy people)
   - Know your route beforehand
   - Establish meeting points to regroup
   - Make safety plans

   Livestreaming
   - Apps: Try Periscope or Livestream to share live video

   Mototaxis/People on bikes/Couriers
   - Can retrieve and save memory cards with sensitive images
   - Have access to electricity in the street to recharge batteries and for other emergencies
   - Are also connected on chat

   Support base
   - A team for connecting with filers on the street and disseminating information
   - Verify facts and share logistical information with team on the street
   - Collect materials and files
   - Edit materials

   At the police station
   - In some cases, the video content can be shown at the police station to prove innocence or wrongful arrest
   - It is important to monitor, via chat, the names of the detained, the police stations where they are held and, which lawyers are accompanying them

   Arrests
   - As soon as you see an arrest in process begin to film
   - If possible, don’t stop filming until the person being arrested is out of sight
   - Remember to film details of the police car and identification of the police officer who made the arrest

   Determine how to communicate
   - Apps: Try messaging using Telegram or Chat Secure
   - Use self-destructive messages that don’t leave a history
   - Define security protocol for including people in any messages or chats

   2. Backup & Data protection
   - Maintain the original files without renaming them
   - Consider making a backup and saving it in a different location
   - Consider encrypting the hard drives using a program like Truecrypt

   Collective editing
   - Add your files to a collective folder so different angles of the protest are captured and centralized
   - Consider having a meeting to discuss what could be created with the available materials

   Sharing & Publishing on the internet
   - Plan to distribute content with other alternative media outlets
   - Analyze the stories in the mainstream media to contest specific points
   - Write supporting text to share with the videos

   Use in judicial proceedings
   - In accordance with the law, lawyers can submit specific footage, raw materials, etc.
   - Be prepared and export videos in multiple formats and with different file types (mp4, avi, wmv, etc.)
   - Based on the allegations of the defense, add supporting text to provide context and details about the video and evidence that has been collected

   Find more materials at library.witness.org