

24
Apr 2019

▲ Lvl. 1

No state
reply yet

United Kingdom

n° 41/2019

Alert created on: 23 Apr 2019

Journalist Lyra McKee Killed in Northern Ireland

SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ Unknown

CATEGORY  ▶ Attacks on physical safety and integrity of journalists

NO STATE REPLY YET

PARTNER: Index, EFJ/IFJ, RSF

Lyra McKee, a leading young journalist, was murdered on 18 April 2019 in the Creggan area of Derry in Northern Ireland. Violent unrest had broken out when police carried out searches in the area. During the disturbances a man reportedly fired shots towards police officers, fatally wounding 29-year old Ms McKee who was standing near a police vehicle. The murder is being investigated as a terrorist incident.

UPDATES

07 Jun 2019: On 6 June 2019, the PSNI carried out further home searches, seizing items for examination. A man aged 46 was arrested and subsequently released without charge.

➡ **Article from The Irish Times: Man arrested in connection with murder of Lyra McKee released**

10 May 2019: On 9 May 2019, the Police Service of Northern Ireland (PSNI) carried out home searches under the Terrorism Act and arrested four men aged 15, 18, 38 and 51, saying the riots in the Creggan area were “orchestrated”. The teenagers were released without charges. On 11 May 2019, Christopher Gillen and Paul McIntyre went on trial in the Magistrates’ Court on charges of riot, petrol bomb offences and the arson of a hijacked vehicle. Both were denied bail.

➡ **Article published by The Guardian: "Lyra McKee death: four males arrested"**

24 Apr 2019: On 23 April 2019, in a statement issued to the Irish News, an organisation called “New IRA” admitted that journalist McKee had been killed by one of its “volunteers” “while standing beside enemy forces”.

➡ **Article published by the BBC: "Lyra McKee: 'New IRA' admits killing of journalist"**


ADDITIONAL INFORMATION



[➔ Article from the BBC: "Lyra McKee murder: Journalist shot dead during Derry rioting"](#)

FOLLOW-UPS



 **24 Apr 2019** | OSCE Media Freedom Representative strongly condemns killing of journalist in United Kingdom, calls for thorough investigation.

[➔ Statement by Harlem Désir](#)



19 Apr 2019 | The Commissioner for Human Rights shocked by the killing of journalist Lyra McKee in Northern Ireland

[➔ Statement by Dunja Mijatović](#)