

# ProJourn condemns Malema, Nando's offers plan

The Professional Journalists' Association (ProJourn) last week issued a press statement registering its disdain for the ANC's decision not to follow through on charges laid against ANC Youth League president Julius Malema for his utterances directed at BBC journalist Jonah Fisher. On a lighter note, Nando's has suggested that flame grilled chicken may kill his anger.



[click to enlarge](#)

ProJourn states that the veracity of the well-publicised attack on Fisher not only brought the ANC into disrepute but also seriously impacts on the robust relationship between the ruling party and the media. The ANC's failure to take action against its youth leader can only be seen as condoning this bizarre attack on a respected member of our fraternity who should enjoy the freedom of expression enshrined in our Constitution and the Freedom Charter.

Malema behaved inexcusably towards BBC journalist Jonah Fisher, whom he had evicted from a news conference, calling him "a bastard" and "a bloody agent."

The association further reiterates its strong condemnation of the ill-treatment of the media and calls on its colleagues in the media to be vigilant and show solidarity with peers who are subjected to abuse and intimidation by taking a firm stand against such behaviour.

Malema's conduct is an affront to media freedom and undermines journalists' right to receive and impart information as enshrined in South Africa's Constitution. That the ANC has chosen not to address this is deplorable. The actions of the Youth League president are an attempt to intimidate the media, to prevent them from asking uncomfortable questions or expressing views, which differ from those of his organisation and represent a direct threat to press freedom in South Africa.

The Professional Journalists' Association promotes ethical and balanced reporting and analysis in South Africa in support

of diversity and democracy; defends the rights of working journalists in their professional work and in their reflection of the voices of the public whom they serve; and argues for sound governmental and corporate policy relating to the gathering and dissemination of information. For more, join [Professional Journalists' Association \(South Africa\)](#) on Facebook and visit The Professional Journalists' Association (ProJourn) website at [www.projourn.org.za](http://www.projourn.org.za).

For more, visit: <https://www.bizcommunity.com>