

SRI LANKA

10 TIPS FOR FILMING PROTESTS, POLICE & MILITARY VIOLENCE SAFELY, EFFECTIVELY AND ETHICALLY

WITNESS
SEE IT FILM IT
CHANGE IT

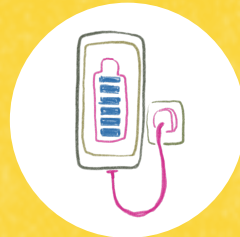
1 PASSWORD PROTECT

Password-protect your smartphone. Not fingerprint or facial recognition. Encrypt your smartphone or delete sensitive data if there is risk of confiscation.



2 CHARGE BATTERIES

Charge your batteries and free up storage. Enable auto back-up, e.g., Google Photos, Dropbox in case the phone is lost / damaged / confiscated.



3 GET A POWERBANK

Consider getting a power bank or portable power station to charge your equipment during power outages.




4 TURN ON GPS


To help news media, courts and human rights organizations verify your video and prove it's real, turn on GPS (high accuracy) on smartphones. If safe to do so, speak into the camera/mobile phone to verify that you are the one filming. Say the date, time, location into the camera. Confirm the location by filming street signs, intersections and landmarks.



5 BLURRING TOOLS

Use a blurring tool afterwards to protect people if you are not filming live. Here are some tools you could use:

 **YouTube (browser-based):**
<https://bit.ly/youtube-blurring>

 **PutMask (Android):**
<https://bit.ly/putmask-app>

 **Anonymous Camera (iOS):**
<https://apple.co/3iZZ3Xx>



6 DOCUMENT VIOLENCE

Capture details like police/military vehicles, uniforms, badges and indications of police/military rank. When safe, document violence, such as gunshots or physical attacks, and film the identities of the perpetrators as well as surrounding crowds, any injuries, damages to buildings, bullet holes or nearby vehicles.



7 DOCUMENT VICTIMS

Show that the victims were acting peacefully. Document those affected, especially if they were targeted.



8 CAPTION YOUR VIDEOS

If you decide to share the video on social media, e.g., Facebook/ Twitter/ Youtube, add a brief, descriptive title that states that you are sharing this to expose a human rights violation. If possible, provide a caption at the start of your video. This is important as it helps make sure it stays up on the platform as proof and is not removed because the footage is violent or graphic.



9 VPN & ROAMING SIM

Assess your data and internet connection. If you can, be prepared with VPN and roaming SIM in case of an internet shutdown. Here is our guide on documenting during internet shutdowns:

 wit.to/internet-shutdowns



10 SECURE YOUR FILES

Always keep your original media files in a secure location. Do not make edits to the original file - always do so from a copy.

