



Peace Forum 2023, photo by Rilind Sulejmani

Xhabir Memedi Deralla

Biography

Xhabir Memedi Deralla (b. 1967) is a human rights activist, journalist, author, and hybrid warfare analyst. He is the founder and head of **CIVIL – Center for Freedom**, a human rights organization based in North Macedonia since 1999, and an active contributor to efforts countering disinformation, authoritarianism, and hybrid warfare.

As the head of CIVIL, Deralla leads the organization's research and strategic initiatives in several critical areas, including disinformation, hybrid threats, elections, and authoritarian tendencies. Under his leadership, CIVIL has launched numerous campaigns addressing pressing social and political issues in North Macedonia and across the Western Balkans. The organization is also a senior member of the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA) and is recognized for its work in arms control, democratic resilience, and civic participation.

Deralla also serves as editor-in-chief of CIVIL's media platform and contributes regularly as an analyst, author, and columnist for media outlets in North Macedonia, the region, and internationally. His media career began in 1989, and he has since contributed to numerous domestic and international media organizations. He has been a member of the Association of Journalists of North Macedonia since 1990 and a member of Amnesty International since 1994.

In 2023, he was awarded the **Order of Merit** by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky for his efforts in countering Russian propaganda. In 2024, he received the **Southeast Europe Association's Solidarity Award** for his contributions to journalism in the region.

As a result of his outspoken activism and views, Deralla has been subjected to hate speech and death threats from ultranationalist and pro-Russian political actors and radical groups.

Publications

As an author, Deralla has written several books, including:

- "Ukraine – Years of Heroism" (2024)
 - "Ukraine – A Year of Heroism" (2023)
 - "The Burst" (2018)
 - "The Story of Peace Unlimited" (2001)
- ...and numerous comprehensive election reports and analyses since 2008.

He has also co-authored, edited, and published a wide range of works, such as:

- "Defending Democracy and Human Rights – Report and Policy Recommendations" (2025)
 - "The Human, the Robot, and the Digital God" (2024)
 - "Visions for a Green Future" (2023)
 - "Resilient Journalism: Countering Disinformation and Propaganda" (2023)
 - "Illegal Arms Proliferation and Organized Crime: It's All Connected" (2022)
 - "Civic Lenses: Citizens Take Part, Observe, Inform" (2018)
 - "Identity Loss or Deliverance and Prosperity?" (2018)
 - "Change is in Your Hands" (2018)
 - "ANTIcorruption" (2018)
 - "We are the Media" (2016)
 - "Free Elections: A Non-Negotiable Condition" (2015)
 - "Reality Check: Remembering the Past – Shaping the Future" (2014)
 - "Unscrupulous Struggle for Power" (2013)
 - "CURE" (2011)
 - "Five Years of Action Against Landmines" (2002)
- ...and others.

Deralla has also published and edited books by other prominent authors, including:

- Prof. Ljubomir D. Frckoski – *Notes on the Macedonian Constitutionalism* (2023)
 - Prof. Saso Ordanoski – *In the Waiting Room of Freedom* (2018)
 - Branko Trickovski – *My Fight With Macedonia* (2021), and *VMRO, Myth, Concept, the End* (2024)
 - Group of Authors – *Injustice and Unrest* (2018)
 - Borce Trajkovski – *The Rise and Fall of the Special Public Prosecutor* (2021)
- ...and several others.

His work also includes the production of a 30-episode educational TV series focused on countering gun culture and gun violence, along with numerous poetry and photography books, such as:

- *Apocalypse* (2011)
- *Malfunction* (2012)
- *Verdict* (2014)
- *Who's Gonna Pay the Bill?* (2015)

Contacts and Online Channels

- **Facebook:** <http://www.facebook.com/xhabir.deralla>
- **Twitter/X:** <https://twitter.com/#!/XhabirDeralla>
- **Email:** xhabir.deralla@gmail.com (personal) | deralla@civil.mk

Websites (CIVIL):

www.civilmedia.mk | www.civilalb.info | www.civil.today | www.defendingdemocracy.global | www.greencivil.mk | <https://childrenofwar.civilmedia.mk/>

Websites (Shortcut Production):

www.frontline.mk | www.nova.mk | www.gradska.mk