How do we get our news about conflict and war? (BBC radio programme)

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How do we get our news about wars such as in Syria or lesser-known conflicts such as that between Kurds and the army in south-eastern Turkey? Thanks to social media we have multiple sources and the images or facts can travel instantly around the globe. But who do we trust and what is the role of hard-pressed mainstream news outfits?

All this and more was discussed for 45 minutes on BBC Radio 4's Start The Week. Veteran journalists Seymour Hersh and Patrick Cockburn were joined by journalist-turned-novelist Ece Temelkuran. I contributed my opinion that news is getting faster (instant updates on Twitter etc) and more plural (the citizen reporting. commenting and sharing the news) but also more complex: how do we verify, contextualise and get in proportion that slew of information racing around the networks?

We will be talking about these issues on Thursday at our free annual journalism conference. Click on this link for details and to sign up now!

Click here to listen to the programme.



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