

Today we're taking a look back at some of the biggest issues of 2018 with special guest Kath Viner, editor-in-chief of The Guardian.

As the media grappled this year with how to cover Donald Trump and his "alternative facts", Viner says it may be time for the media to pay less attention to what he says.

"Surely the thing to do is report on what is actually happening. So less on what Trump is saying but actually what his administration is doing," Viner said.

"We don't hear about what he's doing because we're too busy commenting on what he's saying."

We also talked about how newsrooms are funding journalism and particularly investigative journalism, in an era when journalists are increasingly vilified and even physically attacked or killed.

Viner also identified what she saw as the major challenges ahead.

"I think the other big challenge for next year is how we deal with the rise of the far right and how we report on it without inflaming it or over-exaggerating it," she said.

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Written by Andrew Dodd, Director of the Centre for Advancing Journalism, University of Melbourne

Media Files is produced by a team of academics who have spent decades working in and reporting on the media industry. They're passionate about sharing their understanding of the media landscape, especially how journalists operate, how media policy is changing, and how commercial manoeuvres and digital disruption are affecting the kinds of media and journalism we consume.

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