

Global Freedom of Expression

Special Collection of the Case Law on Freedom of Expression

The Global Freedom of Expression Special Collection of the Case Law on Freedom of Expression is a series of publications which aims to provide a global outlook of some of the most significant legal decisions adopted by national and international tribunals on relevant topics regarding freedom of expression. The collection is based on judgments incorporated into the [Global Freedom of Expression Case Law Database](#). Columbia [Global Freedom of Expression](#), an initiative of Columbia University President Lee C. Bollinger, seeks to contribute to the development of an integrated and progressive jurisprudence and to advance understanding of the norms and institutions that best protect the free flow of information and expression.

The first three publications showcase the case law of the regional human rights tribunals. Indeed, in these publications, the reader will find systematized summaries of decisions on freedom of expression of the Inter-American System of Human Rights, the African System of Human and Peoples' Rights, and the Grand Chamber of the European Court of Human Rights. The remaining documents focus on case law from courts and other non-judicial actors regarding some of today's most challenging or emblematic freedom of expression issues. The topics have been selected as a result of global and regional trends identified by the experts of the Columbia Global Freedom of Expression initiative. In the collection, the reader will find, on the one hand, the systematization of decisions on classic tensions that continue to raise complex problems for judicial operators, such as the tension between the right to privacy and freedom of expression. On the other hand, the collection seeks to systematize the most emblematic cases on

issues that present new challenges for judicial and extrajudicial operators, such as online content moderation.

Each publication features a brief description of specific cases, emphasizing some of the most important conclusions reached by relevant courts and tribunals. The case briefs reproduce the analysis of each case published in our database and will be organized into subtopics that highlight the main issues analyzed by the courts. Finally, each publication will be complemented with a general introduction to contextualize the provided case law.

The purpose of this special collection is two-fold. First, it aims to centralize and systematize some of the most significant legal decisions adopted around the globe on freedom of expression into one series of publications. The information will be presented with a classification that highlights some of the most relevant issues being developed through the jurisprudence on the topic of each paper. Second, it serves as a road map to consult the database developed by Columbia University's Global Freedom of Expression initiative. Throughout these publications, readers will be able to access all the information found in the database for each case, which encompasses, *inter alia*, a detailed explanation of the facts of the case; a decision overview; the national and international standards, law, and jurisprudence cited in the judgment; the decision's direction within the general jurisprudence; and the significance of the case.

We hope that the collection provides judges, lawyers, academics, civil society, and all key actors with a useful tool for the defense of freedom of expression around the world.