



How to Search the “HRNi” - HomepageWebsite

The website of the Human Rights Network international was produced by the University of Bruxelles in Belgium. It provides useful links for human rights research on the internet.

1.

If you want to get to this homepage you write the following homepage address into the address box of the internet explorer:

<http://www.hrni.org>

and press the enter button  - then this website will be shown:

2.
Then click here to open the website



Human Rights Network
H R N i
INTERNATIONAL

- A collection of the most important international documents on human rights : instruments, articles, bibliographic references, websites, case law, reports and human rights actors
- A living, on-line selection of scholarly articles by specialists in different human rights fields
- An innovative research tool for anyone interested in human rights
- An essential resource for researchers, activists, public figures and students working on any area of human rights

Le site Internet sur les Droits de l'Homme
The Human Rights Website

Welcome

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3.

When the website has opened you see this list of human rights topics:

Theory						
Introduction to Human Rights	Systems of Human Rights Protection	International humanitarian law	History and Foundations of Human Rights	Universality of Human Rights	International law of human rights	Human Rights Education

Rights and Freedoms				
Non-Derogable Rights	Qualified Rights	Programmatic Rights	Solidarity Rights	Rights of Special Groups
Right to Life	Right to Liberty and Security	Labor Rights	Right to Peace	Rights of Indigenous Peoples
Prohibition of Torture	Freedom of Movement	Right to Social Protection	Right to Development	Minority Rights
Prohibition of Slavery	Due Process	Cultural Rights	Right to Respect for the Common Heritage of Mankind	Rights of the Child
Legality of Criminal Offenses and Penalties	Right to Respect for Private and Family Life		Environmental Rights	Women's Rights
	Recognition of Legal Personality		Right of Peoples to Self-determination	Rights of Refugees
	Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion			Rights of Detained Persons
	Freedom of Expression			Protection of Human Rights Defenders
	Freedom of Reunion and Association			Rights of Homosexuals and Transsexuals
	Right to Participate in Government			Rights of Disabled Persons
	Right to Property			
	Right to an Effective Remedy			
	Right Not to be Discriminated Against			

Protections and Guarantees							
International Criminal Jurisdictions	United Nations	Council of Europe	European Union	Organization of American States	African Union	Arab League and Muslim World	Asia-Pacific Initiatives
Nuremberg	Human Rights Committee	European Court of Human Rights		Inter-American Court of Human Rights	African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights		
Tokyo							
Former Yugoslavia	Economic and Social Council			Inter-American Commission on Human Rights			
Rwanda							
Sierra Leone and Cambodia	Security Council						
International Criminal Court (ICC)							

Special Focus			
Globalization and Human Rights	Civil Society	Terrorism and Human Rights	Illegal Immigration



4.

When you want to know more about the **“Freedom of Expression”** you click on this topic in the list of “Rights and Freedoms”:

Rights and Freedoms

Qualified Rights

- Right to Liberty and Security
- Freedom of Movement
- Due Process
- Right to Respect for Private and Family Life
- Recognition of Legal Personality
- Freedom of Thought, Conscience and Religion
- Freedom of Expression
- Freedom of Reunion and Association
- Right to Participate in Government
- Right to Property
- Right to an Effective Remedy
- Right Not to be Discriminated Against

click here

When you click on the topic “freedom of expression” (or any other of these topics) you will always find links to:

- Specific instruments
- General instruments
- Articles
- Websites
- Selected Case Law
- Case Law Websites
- Reports
- Books
- Periodicals
- Human Rights Actors

which are related to this topic



5. On the topic of “Freedom of Expression” you will find for example:

Specific Instruments:

When you click on “Specific Instruments” you will find texts of international human rights instruments related to the special topic, here related to "free expression". These instruments are either binding international conventions or just non binding declarations and resolutions which refer to the freedom of expression and can provide a better and detailed understanding of the scope of this right.

For example the ”Johannesburg Declaration” or the ”Inter-American Declaration” give a lot of detailed ideas and interpretation about the restriction on freedom of expression for the purpose to protect "national security" and on other restriction purposes, especially how they shall not be abused by governments.

Declaration on Fundamental Principles concerning the Contribution of the Mass Media to Strengthening Peace and International Understanding, to the Promotion of Human Rights and to Countering Racism, Apartheid and Incitement to War	MORE
Date of adoption: 28/1/1978	Entry into force: -
System of protection: Universal	
The Kampala Declaration on Intellectual Freedom and Social Responsibility	MORE
Date of adoption: 29/11/1990	Entry into force: -
System of protection: Other	
The Johannesburg Principles on National Security, Freedom of Expression and Access to Information	MORE
Date of adoption: 1996	Entry into force: -
System of protection: Universal	
Inter-American Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression	MORE
Date of adoption: 10/2000	Entry into force: -
System of protection: Organization of American States	



Articles:

When you click on “Articles” you will find the full texts of articles (essays) in English or in French language on the topic of “Free Expression”. These articles have been written by law teachers and scholars and have been published in different law journals. For example you will find the following articles among a lot of other articles dealing with freedom of expression.

Title of the article	Name of author	topics of the article	
Battling online hate	Kevin ANDERSON		MORE Online
First published: 30/8/2001 Reference: BBC News - World - Americas			
One of the issues on the agenda at the World Conference on Racism in South Africa is the role of the media in addressing racism. How does a democratic society respond to racist or other offensive speech without trampling the right of free expression?			
How Much Freedom for Racist Speech? : Transnational Aspects of a Conflict of Human Rights	Friedrich KUBLER		MORE Online
First published: 1997 Reference: Hofstra University School of Law Review			
Racist speech as an issue of constitutional law; of international law - Legislation and judicial review: the diverging ways of the US and of Germany - The "common ground" between "slippery slopes" and "margins of appreciation".			
La liberté d'expression selon la jurisprudence de la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme de Strasbourg	Jean-Paul COSTA		MORE Online
First published: 6/2001 Reference: Actualité et Droit International			
An analysis of the case-law of the European Court of human rights on article 10. The importance of the freedom of expression in general, and of the freedom of the press in particular; exceptions compatible with the Convention.			
La libre circulation internationale des informations par satellite : Note concernant l'arrêt Autronic de la CourEDH	Gérard COHEN-JONATHAN		MORE Reference
First published: 1990 Reference: RUDH, 1990, P 313-316			
The case considers for the first time « the new media » - Principle of unlimited international circulation of information – Right of the public to receive programs broadcast by a telecommunication satellite without unjustified interference.			
Discrimination raciale et liberté d'expression : A propos de l'arrêt de la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme du 23 septembre 1994, Jersild contre Danemark	Gérard COHEN-JONATHAN		MORE Reference
First published: 15/3/1995 Reference: RUDH, 1995, Vol. 7 No. 1-3, p. 1-8			
An analysis of the case of Jersild v. Denmark (ECHR). The Court examines for the first time the problem of incitement to racial violence following a TV programme.			

click on “More” to get access to the full text of this article (either by internet link or by down-load)



Websites:

When you click on “websites” you will find a lot of different links that lead you to homepages that deal especially with the topic (here with “free expression”).

For example you will find the following links:

Freedom of expression links
Languages: English ★★★★☆
Links on freedom of expression and censorship - Resources - Censorship on the Internet - Organizations Documents - Legal Decisions and Appeals - Newsgroups and Listservs. Not scientifically-oriented.

The International Freedom of Expression eXchange: IFEX
Languages: English French Spanish ★★★★★
Weekly online newsletter (Communiqué) on free expression issues - Archive of freedom of expression Alerts - List of IFEX members (many local NGOs) - Very good links.

Unlimited freedom of speech
Languages: English ★★★★☆
Libertarian, US-oriented site - Very good links to civil rights, freedom of expression, historical and different national texts - Other parts of the site may also be worth exploring, but the articles are not very scientific.

Click here to get linked with the home page

Selected Case Law

When you click on “Selected Case Law” you will find a whole lot of decisions on the topic (here on cases related to “freedom of expression”). You will find decisions of the of the European Court of Human Rights, of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, of the UN Committee of Human Rights and of the African Commission on Human Rights.

They all deal with single cases of violation of free expression in different countries of the world and provide detailed information about the content of this right and about its limits and restrictions. Each decision shows a brief description about the topics of the case that was decided. So you can easily see if it is a case that for example has to do with denied access to information, or with the right of the electronic media to broadcast foreign radio station news or with the limits of free speech in case of criticism about a politician.

(Of course the European Court decides only about a violation of the free expression article of the European Convention. The Inter-American Court decides only about violations of the free expression article of the American Conventions on Human Rights and the UN Committee decides about violations of the ICCPR article on free expression. But all these decisions are valuable sources because the fundamental human right of free expression is universal. This means the wisdom of these decisions can be applied in the same way in Europe, Africa, America, at the UN level and of course in Asia, too).



The following examples of selected cases may give you an idea, what you can find at this link:

this title shows who are the parties of the case that was decided (here a civil liberties organization filed a claim about human rights violation against (versus = v.) the state of Nigeria)

click here on "More" to get access to the full text of the decision

Constitutional Rights Project and Civil Liberties Organisation v. Nigeria **MORE**

Date: 31/10/1998

Decision-making body: African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

Legal reference: Communication No. 102/93, in Annex V (Decisions on Communications) to the Twelfth Annual Activity Report of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, 1998-1999 (ACHPR/RPT/12th).

Annulment of free elections - Arrests - **Seizure of magazines - Violations of Articles 1** (respect for rights in the Charter), 6 (Liberty and Security), **9 (Freedom of expression and to receive information)** and 13 (Right to participate in government).

here you find the main topics of the case that was decided: This means the "African Commission on Human Rights" in this case decided that a seizure of magazines violated Article 9 of the African Convention on Human Rights. **Always look first at this part of the Case description to see if this is a case that is parallel or related to the Cambodian human rights case that you want to solve.**

Fressoz and Roire v. France **MORE**

Date: 21/1/1999

Decision-making body: European Court of Human Rights

Legal reference: ECHR, 21 January 1999, Recueil 1999-I. n° 29183/95.

Newspaper reveals the salary of an industry chief - Period of industrial unrest - Convicted for breach of professional confidence - Debate in the general interest - Information already published elsewhere - Article 10: disproportionate interference.

In this case a newspaper was convicted for breach of confidence because it published the salary of an industrial chief. The **European** Court of Human Rights decided that this conviction was a disproportionate interference with the right of free expression (=Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights)



Reports:

Here you find reports that deal with the topic (here with freedom of expression).

For example: The report of the UN Special Rapporteur on Freedom of expression. This report outlines concerns, present problems with freedom of speech and gives interesting assessments of the various attempts of different states to limit that freedom.

click here
on "More"
to get
access to
the full text
of the report

Right to freedom of opinion and expression - Report of the Special Rapporteur	MORE
Rapporteur spécial de la Commission des droits de l'homme de l'ONU / Special Rapporteur of the UN Commission on Human Rights	Date: 13/2/2001
Reference: Distr. GENERAL, E/CN.4/2001/64, 13 February 2001	
Source: United Nations Commission on Human Rights	
The report identifies "trends" that may encourage Governments to review practices and take remedial action when required. The Special Rapporteur also directs the attention of Governments to a number of issues of concern, urging them to review their approach to new technologies and to the right to freedom of opinion and expression of women. Concerns related to increasing violations committed by non-State actors are also raised. The Special Rapporteur concludes the report with his recommendations.	

Human Rights Actors

Here you find links to the homepages of a lot of different international institutions and organizations that deal with the topic (here with freedom of expression). On the homepages of these organizations you will find more detailed information about this freedom. You will find reports, critical comments and ideas how to protect this freedom.

For example:

Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ)	MORE
http://www.cpj.org/	
Type: NGO (Non-Governmental Organization)	
A nonpartisan, nonprofit organization. Monitors abuses against the press, promotes press freedom around the world. Protects journalists by publicly revealing abuses against the press and by acting on behalf of imprisoned and threatened journalists.	
Freedom of Expression Institute (FXI)	MORE
http://www.fxj.org.za/	
Type: NGO (Non-Governmental Organization)	
The Institute's work to uphold the values of freedom of speech and expression involves monitoring (watchdog) and research functions, litigation, educational activities and campaigns.	
International Freedom of Expression eXchange (IFEX)	MORE
http://www.ifex.org/	