Content

Media Regulation

Independence of Regulatory Bodies and Commercial Issues

		Indepen
Criminal	Online Content	Journalists
Hate speech	Content filtering	No licensing/re
Advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence • Security/Public order Intended and likely to incite to imminent violence • Obscenity Not just offensive material but harmful content like child pornography • Judiciary To protect the integrity of the judicial process, not individual judges • Blasphemy/False news Neither are legitimate	Illegitimate if not end-user-controlled • Blocking orders Should be exceptional, proportionate, carefully tailored to harmful content and subjected to judicial/quasi-judicial oversight • No strict liability for intermediaries Intermediaries should not be held strictly liable for content • Specific to online harms Restrictions should avoid duplicating existing legislation and should target online-specific harms	Everyone should in journalism • Protection of so Right to protect or of information • Accreditation Only to ensure prijournalists to limit not to control according profession • Protection from States should profession attacks by Sactors, including
Civil/Administrative	•	Digital Space
Defamation		No licensing
Only for legitimate reputation, with appropriate defences (truth, opinion, reasonably publication) and limited sanctions • Privacy		No licensing requirement, at most of distribution
Only where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy and this is not outweighed by the overall public interest		Promotion of In Obligation to pro-

• Right to Information Law

Online harms

existing laws

Should be adopted and implemented

Specific to harms unique to cyberspace and non-duplicative of

Journalists	Print Media	Private Broadcasters
 No licensing/registration Everyone should be free to engage in journalism Protection of sources Right to protect confidential sources of information Accreditation Only to ensure privileged access of journalists to limited space venues, not to control access to the profession Protection from attacks States should protect journalists from attacks by State and non-State actors, including online 	 No licensing Technical registration No discretion to refuse once requisite information has been provided Rights of correction and reply Right of correction where this will redress the harm; reply only for breach of a legal right Complaints Preferably self-regulatory; based on a pre-established code of conduct and only light sanctions 	 Licensing Based on a frequency plan Process should be fair and transparent Key goal should be to promote diversity Code of Conduct Developed in consultation with all stakeholders with the aim of setting standards, not punishing
Digital Space		Public Service Broadcasters
 No licensing No licensing requirement for online content, at most only for the means of distribution Promotion of Internet access Obligation to promote access No Internet shutdowns No general Internet shutdowns for any geographic area Net neutrality No differential treatment of Internet traffic based on device, content, 		Independence Governed by an independent board and benefiting from independent sources of public funding Mandate The mandate should be clearly set out in law, including providing a quality news service and serving all sections of society