

WORLD PRESS FREEDOM DAY 2021

# INFORMATION AS A PUBLIC GOOD

30 YEARS OF THE WINDHOEK DECLARATION

## Executive summary

The Windhoek Declaration, adopted in 1991, is a landmark document that established the principle of the right to information as a public good. It is a cornerstone of the global press freedom movement and has inspired the development of national laws and international instruments. The declaration states that the right to information is a fundamental human right and that it is essential for the functioning of a democratic society. It calls for the establishment of a free and independent press and for the protection of journalists and their sources. The declaration also emphasizes the role of the media in promoting transparency, accountability, and the rule of law. It is a call to action for governments and the international community to ensure that the right to information is protected and promoted in all countries.

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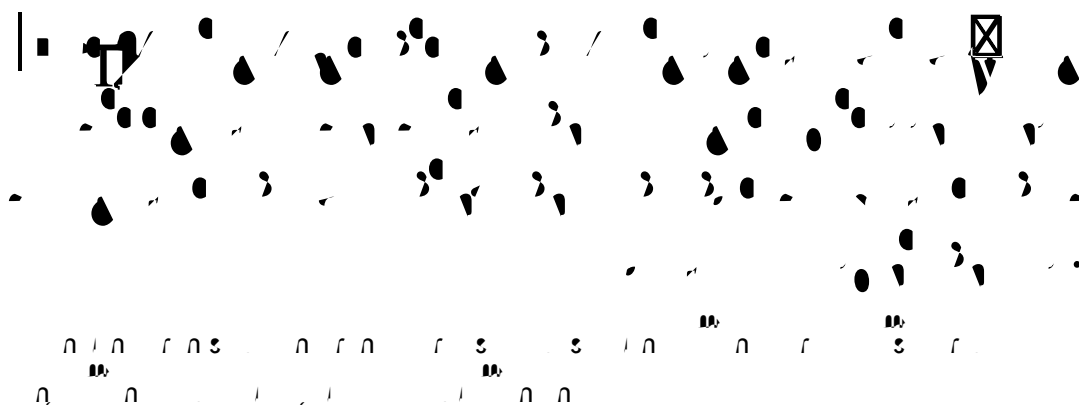
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# Background and changes



On 3 May 1991, signatories of the historic Windhoek Declaration for the Development of a Free, Independent and Pluralistic Press stated in Article V that:



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הרפורמה (השקמה) היא תהליך של שינוי מערכות הממשל והחברה, המיוזם על ידי ממשלה או גורמים חיצוניים, כדי לשפר את היעילות, החדשנות והאמינות של הממשל. הרפורמה כוללת שינויים במבנה הממשל, במתודות העבודה, במערכות החוקים והנהלים, ובמערכות השירותים. הרפורמה היא תהליך מתמש, המלווה את הממשל לאורך כל חייו. הרפורמה היא תהליך של שינוי מערכות הממשל והחברה, המיוזם על ידי ממשלה או גורמים חיצוניים, כדי לשפר את היעילות, החדשנות והאמינות של הממשל. הרפורמה כוללת שינויים במבנה הממשל, במתודות העבודה, במערכות החוקים והנהלים, ובמערכות השירותים. הרפורמה היא תהליך מתמש, המלווה את הממשל לאורך כל חייו.

# Appendix

## Insights on information as a public good

Information is a public good because it is non-rival and non-excludable. It is non-rival because one person's use of information does not diminish its availability to others. It is non-excludable because it is difficult to prevent others from using information once it is disseminated. This makes information a public good that can be underprovided in a free market. The challenge is to find ways to incentivize the production and dissemination of information while ensuring that it remains accessible to all.







Appendix - Elaborated discussion on the concept note.

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### 3. Strengthening Media and Information Literacy capacities in times of disinformation and hate speech

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Appendix - Elaborated discussion on the concept note.

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