

Issues' Analysis

-Freedom of the Press- *Session 1-5*

Introduction

This issue is raised fairly often within the context of the Universal Periodic Review. Out of over 5000 recommendations in total over 5 sessions, 166 recommendations focussed on freedom of the press.¹ In total, 72 advance questions concerned this issue. In total, 31 states asked questions and made recommendations, while 51 States under Review received questions and recommendations. Most of the recommendations and questions were made by the WEOG region (respectively 83% and 90%). States under Review from all regions received questions and recommendations, with the exception of the WEOG region, which did not receive any on this issue.

Recommendations and questions covered issues like legislation on press liberty, implementation of the ICCPR, treaty body recommendations, plurality of the media, independence of the media, harassment and prosecution of journalists, election coverage and electronic media.

Top 5 countries making recommendations on this issue

1. Canada (25 recommendations)
2. Norway (22 recommendations)
3. France (15 recommendations)
4. Netherlands (12 recommendations)
5. Ireland (10 recommendations)

Top 5 States under Review receiving recommendations on this issue

1. Azerbaijan (16 recommendations)
Mexico (16 recommendations)
Viet Nam (16 recommendations)
4. Afghanistan (11 recommendations)
5. Russian Federation (10 recommendations)

Top 5 countries posing advance written questions on this issue

1. United Kingdom (16 questions)
2. Sweden (12 questions)
3. Denmark (11 questions)
4. Netherlands (9 questions)
5. Canada (6 questions)

Top 4 States under Review receiving advance written questions on this issue

1. Afghanistan (7 questions)
2. Azerbaijan (6 questions)
3. Senegal (5 questions)
Viet Nam (5 questions)

¹ For more detailed data, see the table.