



world press freedom day

B A K A L



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MAY

WORLD  
FREEDOM  
PRESS

“Congress shall  
make no law...  
abridging the  
freedom of speech  
or of the press.”

—FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE U.S. CONSTITUTION  
RATIFIED IN 1791

1791

A vibrant democracy  
must have a free press, where  
facts are communicated, opinions  
expressed and information shared.  
It spurs healthy discussion among  
citizens and informs their decisions  
about how they wish to be governed  
and represented. It helps them effectively  
resolve serious issues in their society.

A free press is a safeguard against a totalitarian  
government that tells people what to think and  
how to act through a press that is not free—one that  
only represents the government view, excluding  
all others.

Freedom of expression is a core American value,  
established in the U.S. Constitution and affirmed  
repeatedly by the U.S. Supreme Court.

In the words of Thomas Jefferson,

“Our liberty depends  
on the freedom of the  
press, and that cannot  
be limited without  
being lost.”



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