

The Constitutional Framework for Electronic Journalism

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Abstract:

The press, in general, is considered one of the most fundamental guarantees for defending individuals' rights and freedoms. It serves as a powerful tool for those who use it correctly to advocate for society as a whole and for individuals in particular. The press acts as the staff that defends individuals' rights and freedoms and the illuminating pen that enlightens society and clarifies any ambiguities

Given the significant technological advancements that society has experienced, it was inevitable for the field of press freedom to evolve as well. Following the establishment of print journalism, electronic journalism emerged as a result of technological progress, surpassing digital journalism in strength. This is primarily due to its rapid dissemination and ability to reach a larger audience in less time.

As a result, there arose an urgent need to regulate electronic journalism by defining its concept, types, and addressing challenges that may hinder its progress and limit its reach to a broader audience. Accordingly, the current Egyptian Constitution of 2014 addressed the regulation of electronic journalism and clarified its legal framework, which has been examined in this research.

ملخص البحث باللغة العربية:

تعتبر الصحافة بوجه عام من أهم الضمانات الأساسية للدفاع عن الأفراد في حقوقهم وحررياتهم، حيث تعد الصحافة اليد القوية لمستخدميها بصورة صحيحة للدفاع عن المجتمع ككل وعن الأفراد بصورة خاصة، فهي تعد العصاة التي تدافع عن حقوق وحرريات الافراد، والقلم المنير الذي ينير المجتمع ويوضح ما شابه من غموض.

ونظراً لما تعرض له المجتمع بأسره من تطور تكنولوجي كبير فكان لزاماً أن ينال حرية الصحافة من تطور، فبعد أن توطدت الصحافة الورقية ظهرت نتيجة التطور التكنولوجي الصحافة الإلكترونية التي تعتبر أقوى من الصحافة الرقمية، ويرجع ذلك إلى سرعة انتشارها وسرعة وصولها للكثير من الأفراد في وقت أقل. لذا ظهرت الحاجة الملحة لتنظيم الصحافة الإلكترونية من حيث توضيح مفهومها وأنواعها ما قد يعرقل مسيرتها ووصولها لعدد أكبر من الأفراد لذا تعرض دستورنا المصري الحالي الصادر عام ٢٠١٤م لتنظيم الصحافة الإلكترونية وبيان نظامها القانوني وهو ما تم عرضه في بحثنا هذا.

. Introduction

Freedom of the press is one of the most significant means of exercising freedom of opinion and expression, embodying the essence of free thought. It acts as a mirror reflecting society's image to its citizens, advocating for their interests and striving for societal advancement. Among the various forms of freedom of opinion, press freedom stands as the most prominent, representing the strongest manifestation of the right to express one's views.

The concept of freedom of opinion and expression has evolved significantly in the context of the information revolution, as new influences reshape traditional dynamics. With this evolution, new forms of freedom of expression, such as **electronic freedom of expression**, have emerged.

The Roots of Press Freedom

Press freedom stems from citizens' rights to observe and monitor the society they live in, as well as to hold their representatives accountable. It is a right for the people, with the press serving as their delegate in exercising this freedom. However, the full exercise of press freedom is only possible within a comprehensive framework of liberty.

The growing significance of press freedom aligns with the global spread of democratic systems, which are based on the principle of governance by the people. Democracy requires free elections, which, in turn, depend on freedom of opinion and expression. In modern society, the press has become one of the most effective tools for expressing public opinion, making it an integral part of democratic systems.

Definition of Press Freedom

Press freedom refers to the publication and dissemination of information through various means—print, audio, visual, and digital. Every individual has the right to access information, opinions, and news without interference. The press serves as a vehicle for shaping public opinion, spreading ideas, and fostering intellectual and psychological awareness among its audience.

The Egyptian Constitution of 2014, in Article 70, guarantees: "Freedom of the press, printing, and publishing in written, visual, audible, and electronic formats is guaranteed. Egyptians, whether natural or legal persons, have the right to own and issue newspapers and establish audiovisual and digital media outlets."

The Rise of Electronic Journalism

The world is currently experiencing a communication revolution that has turned it into a global village. Advances in computing, telephony, and information networks have led to the emergence of interactive communication technologies. These technologies have introduced new and innovative media platforms, surpassing the capabilities of traditional media.

Electronic journalism, also known as "internet journalism," is a product of this technological evolution. It represents a clear milestone in the ongoing information revolution, which has resulted from the fusion of communication technologies and computing advancements. The internet is a groundbreaking tool that, for the first time in history, has enabled instantaneous communication across vast distances.

Society quickly realized the significance of this network in transmitting information, data, and ideas efficiently. Electronic journalism has since played a prominent role in supporting numerous rights and freedoms, foremost among them being **freedom of opinion and expression**.

The Role of the Internet in Freedom of Opinion and Expression

The internet has become the most widespread medium for sharing opinions, offering individuals from all societies the ability to voice their thoughts and ideas with ease. It allows for the free exchange of information without the constraints of geographical boundaries.

The global nature of the internet has amplified its importance, particularly as international agreements and economic interdependence become increasingly prominent. As a result, the internet is now one of the most critical platforms for information dissemination and expression.

First: The Concept of Electronic Journalism

Before defining freedom in electronic journalism, it is important to outline the concept of electronic journalism itself. In academic literature and legal writings, electronic journalism is referred to by various terms, including instant journalism, digital newspapers, and online journalism.

Definitions of Electronic Journalism

Numerous researchers and media professionals have attempted to define electronic journalism, yet no universally accepted definition exists. The interpretations vary based on the authors' areas of expertise:

1. **Non-Paper-Based Journalism:**

Some define electronic journalism as "non-paper-based journalism—readable, audible, and visual—broadcast via websites on the global information network." This definition focuses solely on the absence of paper.

2. **Digital Replicas of Print Newspapers:**

Another perspective defines electronic newspapers as "written newspapers replicated online, distinguished by extensive use of colors, sound, and images." While this definition highlights the multimedia aspects of electronic journalism, it remains incomplete.

3. **A Modern and Dynamic Medium:**

Building on these definitions, electronic journalism can be described as "journalism that publishes journalistic material on global information networks using advanced technologies, often associated with print newspapers, challenging traditional forms of media."

Constitutional Protection of Electronic Journalism

The flexibility of Egypt's 1971 Constitution extended freedom of the press to include any new media forms through its phrasing, "... or other means of expression ...," thereby implicitly covering the internet and electronic journalism.

The current Egyptian Constitution of 2014 explicitly guarantees freedom of opinion and expression in all forms. Article 70 affirms:

"Freedom of the press, printing, and publishing in written, visual, audible, and electronic formats is guaranteed..."

This constitutional recognition reflects the influence of the Arab Spring revolutions, which relied heavily on modern communication technologies, particularly the internet. As a result, post-revolution constitutions, including Egypt's, have incorporated provisions protecting these modern platforms under the umbrella of **digital rights**, including "freedom of digital opinion and expression."

Second: Types of Electronic Newspapers

Electronic newspapers on the internet can be categorized into two main types:

1. Fully Electronic Newspapers

These are standalone digital publications, though they often share the same name as a traditional print newspaper. Fully electronic newspapers provide the same services as their print counterparts, with additional features that print newspapers cannot offer, such as:

- Search functions within the newspaper or across the web
- Hyperlinks to other websites
- Instant response capabilities
- Archive access

The unique nature of electronic newspapers, combined with the technological advantages of the internet and hypertext systems, allows them to provide these enhanced services.

2. Online Versions of Print Newspapers

This category includes the digital platforms of traditional print newspapers. These websites typically replicate some or all the services offered by their print editions but deliver them through the internet.

Third: Characteristics of Electronic Journalism

Electronic journalism enjoys a level of freedom unavailable to traditional print journalism. Unlike print media, which often undergoes multiple editorial revisions to align with a publication's policies, electronic journalism provides more autonomy for both

readers and writers. Below are some key characteristics and advantages of electronic journalism:

1. Interactivity

Electronic journalism fosters interaction and engagement between users and the media. Features like searchable content, feedback mechanisms, and direct communication through email and other platforms distinguish it from traditional media. Online news platforms also experiment with various feedback channels, such as:

- Letters to the editor
- Live chatrooms
- News boards
- Expert Q&A sessions

This interactivity allows individuals to express their thoughts, opinions, and perspectives more freely, making electronic journalism a widespread platform for global expression.

2. Attractiveness

Electronic journalism engages users by offering multimedia content. Readers can simultaneously read, watch, and listen to news, often accompanied by real-time videos and photos. This immediacy enhances credibility and eliminates the wait for next-day print editions. Additionally, users can access multiple publications, including foreign ones, bypassing geographical barriers.

3. Freedom from Censorship

Unlike print journalism, electronic platforms are less restricted by editorial or governmental censorship. This freedom enables the publication of diverse content without interference.

4. Cost-Effectiveness

Electronic journalism significantly reduces costs associated with paper, printing, and distribution. It also eliminates the need for extensive formalities, such as licensing and regulatory procedures, associated with launching a print newspaper. For readers, it saves daily expenses, as accessing electronic news requires only a one-time investment in a

device and internet access. Additionally, it benefits the environment by minimizing paper waste, ink pollution, and industrial byproducts.

5. Reader Participation in Content Creation

Many electronic newspapers allow readers to actively participate in the editorial process. Features such as comment sections enable users to publish their opinions instantly, fostering real-time interaction between writers and their audience.

6. Flexible Work Environment

Electronic journalism eliminates the need for a centralized office. A dispersed team of contributors from around the world can collaboratively manage and publish content, leveraging digital connectivity.

This analysis highlights the distinctive features that make electronic journalism a transformative medium for sharing information and opinions globally

Fourth: The Relationship Between Freedom of Opinion and Expression and Freedom of Electronic Journalism

Freedom of opinion and expression serves as the true and primary gateway to general rights and freedoms. As previously mentioned, press freedom is one of the most significant means of exercising freedom of opinion and expression. With the information revolution, the concept of freedom of expression has evolved, introducing new forms such as electronic freedom of expression and electronic journalism.

The Impact of the Information Revolution

The information revolution has provided unprecedented support for freedom of opinion and expression. It has made it easier for individuals to access information and exercise their right to express opinions globally, transcending geographical boundaries. People can now freely publish their views and receive feedback from others, turning the internet into a primary medium for expression. Traditional media, by comparison, has become a secondary option.

Expanding Participation Through Electronic Journalism

Electronic journalism has empowered not only professional journalists but also ordinary individuals to express their opinions. The internet has become the most widely used platform for practicing freedom of opinion and expression. It plays an essential role in people's lives, enabling cultural, social, and political participation. It also serves as a vital tool for raising awareness, educating society, and facilitating engagement in democratic processes.

Interactive Nature of Electronic Journalism

Electronic journalism represents one of the most significant outcomes of the technological revolution, transforming media into an interactive platform. Unlike print media, where communication is one-way, digital media allows for interaction between the sender and the receiver. Individuals can easily respond to content, fostering a two-way communication dynamic.

The internet's global reach has positioned electronic journalism as the leading medium for information dissemination and opinion exchange. It has significantly reduced reliance on traditional print media, as many users have shifted entirely or partially to digital platforms.

Fifth: Challenges Facing Freedom of Electronic Journalism

While electronic journalism has established itself as an essential medium for supporting freedom of opinion and expression, facilitating the dissemination and exchange of ideas, it faces several challenges that hinder its growth and expansion. These challenges include:

1. Readability:

Reading on screens is still relatively uncommon, particularly in developing countries where computers and digital habits are less prevalent. Electronic journalism necessitates cultivating new reader habits, such as screen-based reading, which may take time to become widespread.

2. Legal Uncertainty:

Like other digital services (e.g., electronic money and digital signatures), electronic journalism suffers from a lack of comprehensive legal frameworks. This legal ambiguity complicates its recognition and legitimacy. However, it is hoped that technological and legal experts will soon address these challenges.

3. Weak Financial Support:

Electronic newspapers often struggle with inadequate funding. Revenue from electronic journalism is significantly lower compared to print journalism, primarily due to the lack of advertising opportunities. Advertisers frequently exhibit mistrust toward digital platforms, resulting in limited financial support. This funding gap leads to a scarcity of electronic newspapers and a corresponding shortage of skilled digital journalists.

Sixth: Differences Between Electronic and Print Journalism

When any new media form emerges, it initially mirrors the structure and content of its predecessor. This pattern applies to electronic journalism, which initially replicated the content of print journalism, adding little more than enhanced imagery. Consequently, some observers viewed electronic journalism as a mere complement to traditional print media.

However, perspectives shifted as news outlets evolved and embraced technological advancements. Electronic journalism leveraged modern media tools and developed unique attributes, establishing itself as a distinct platform with its own audience, release schedules, and interactive features. Unlike print media's one-way communication, electronic journalism enabled readers to engage with content, respond, and participate in real time.

From studies conducted in this field, the key differences between electronic and print journalism can be summarized as follows:

1. Differences in News Content:

Electronic journalism creates a unique identity, distinct from print journalism, by offering features such as:

- Photographic images
- Graphical elements
- Audio and video clips
- Archival links

2. **Distinctive Journalistic Services:**

Electronic journalism tailors its content to meet the needs of its online audience, considering factors such as cultural diversity, geographic spread, and accessibility. Additionally, the visual presentation of electronic editions uses vibrant colors and dynamic layouts, differentiating them from static print editions.

3. **Global Accessibility:**

Readers can access news and events from anywhere without geographical limitations. This universal reach is a hallmark of electronic journalism, which often garners greater audience support than traditional print editions.

Based on the above clarification, it can be said that electronic journalism has become a competitor to traditional print journalism. This competition has pushed print newspapers to assert their presence on the internet. Some of these newspapers have managed to persist, while others have ceased publication due to financial unviability, as users have shown reluctance to pay for accessing online versions of print newspapers.

In this context, a researcher specializing in electronic journalism concluded that the features and characteristics unique to electronic journalism have led to a decline in readers' interest in print newspapers. This marks the beginning of the decline of print journalism, as seen in the reductions made by major American newspapers. For example, *The New York Times* has cut 60% of its editorial staff.

The internet, along with its associated electronic journalism, now poses a threat to the existence of traditional print journalism as a media tool. It has also introduced new journalistic formats that were previously unknown. Just as technological advancements have impacted other forms of media, they have also significantly

influenced print journalism. Newspapers have found themselves in a medium that could potentially replace paper as the primary mode of delivering content to readers.

The internet has become the preferred environment for many publishers, serving as a new domain for publishing. It adds various features and characteristics to journalism, which are favored by readers and utilized by publishers. This marked the beginning of electronic journalism, which has steadily expanded since the early 1990s.

Before the end of the 1990s, many newspapers worldwide had established their own websites and begun releasing digital versions of their print editions. These digital versions retained their prominence without experiencing a significant drop in daily circulation numbers. Today, it is rare to find a print newspaper that does not have a corresponding digital version.

This shift is largely attributed to the distinctive qualities of the internet, which have encouraged and simplified the publication of electronic versions of newspapers. These digital editions offer several advantages:

1. **Promotion and Advertisement:** Digital versions help promote and advertise the print editions.
2. **Audience Retention:** They help maintain readership by preventing audiences from switching to other platforms and publications.
3. **Expanded Reach:** They provide new opportunities for distribution and reach that go beyond the limitations of print, such as censorship and financial constraints.

Regulating Freedom of Expression on the Internet

Initially, nations approached the regulation of online freedom of expression similarly to traditional media, such as newspapers and magazines. However, the unique characteristics of the internet have significantly impacted its regulation. Legal frameworks applicable to traditional media are challenging to enforce on the internet due to the difficulty of balancing unrestricted online expression with the protection of human rights and freedoms.

The European Court of Human Rights emphasized this challenge, stating:

"The internet, as a medium for information and communication, possesses unique characteristics distinct from printed media, particularly in its capacity to store and transmit information. The electronic network serves billions of users worldwide, making it impractical to subject it to the same rules and controls as printed media. The potential harm posed by internet content to the exercise of human rights—especially the right to privacy—is undoubtedly greater than the risks associated with traditional media. Consequently, policies governing the reproduction of materials in print and online media should differ, with the latter being regulated in line with the specific features of technology to ensure the protection of relevant rights and freedoms."

One of the primary challenges in regulating internet-based expression lies in controlling content published on websites accessible globally. When a website hosted outside a country's borders publishes content harmful to that country, the affected nation may find it difficult to assert jurisdiction and control over the offending site. The lack of uniform laws across countries—stemming from differences in cultural, ethical, political, religious, and constitutional values—further complicates regulation. What is legal in one country may be deemed illegal in another.

To address these issues, countries must develop new regulatory concepts tailored to the internet's unique characteristics.

Such adaptations are essential for maintaining effective oversight of online expression.

The Problem of Jurisdiction

Jurisdictional challenges arise when websites operate outside a nation's boundaries, placing them beyond the direct reach of domestic laws. The absence of effective international cooperation in regulating online content exacerbates these difficulties. Each country has its own interests and social values to defend, which may conflict with views and ideas published on the internet.

As a result, it has become increasingly difficult to establish a legal framework suitable for the new realities of digital media. This has led to confusion, even in identifying the entities subject to regulation. The direct impact of technological advancements on public freedoms highlights the need for comprehensive legal frameworks that address both individual rights and broader societal concerns.

The Need for Comprehensive and Global Regulation

Effective legal frameworks must address all aspects of modern media, particularly those affecting fundamental rights and freedoms. Regulatory systems should strike a balance between protecting personal freedoms and preventing violations of individual rights, such as privacy. Such frameworks should exhibit the following characteristics:

- **Comprehensiveness:** Covering all aspects of media regulation.
- **Global Reach:** Ensuring universal applicability to address international challenges.

Regulatory systems must account for the difficulty of monitoring and prosecuting individuals or entities infringing on personal freedoms. This includes mechanisms to address the dissemination of opinions and information over the internet while preserving individual rights.

Governments must take proactive measures to ensure the right to freedom of expression online, creating an environment conducive to its exercise without obstruction. Simultaneously, governments must implement effective safeguards to prevent attempts to suppress the voices of individuals exercising their rights online.

Freedom of Expression and Its Relationship with Other Human Rights

Freedom of expression is not superior to other human rights and freedoms. When conflicts arise between freedom of expression and other rights, a balance must be struck to ensure harmony. No hierarchy exists among human rights; all rights are equally

important and indispensable. Any division or prioritization that creates conflict among human rights is entirely unacceptable.

This principle was reinforced in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which states: "All human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent, and interrelated. The international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing, and with the same emphasis."

Applicability of Legal Principles to Online Freedom of Expression

Legal frameworks governing traditional media can be extended to regulate freedom of expression on the internet, provided such application does not undermine the right to free expression or harm other individual rights and freedoms.

However, for areas where existing laws are insufficient to address the challenges posed by online expression, states must intervene to establish legal systems that safeguard individual rights. This includes creating appropriate regulations to prevent the misuse of online platforms without imposing undue restrictions.

Limitations of Existing Legal Frameworks

While traditional legal principles may be adequate for regulating certain aspects of online expression, they often fall short in areas such as oversight and accountability. Key challenges include:

- **Regulating Content:** Existing laws may struggle to address the specific nature of internet-based expression.
- **Enforcing Accountability:** Monitoring and controlling content online is more complex than in traditional media, requiring updated legal mechanisms.

The development of comprehensive and adaptive legal frameworks is crucial to ensure a balance between protecting freedom of expression and safeguarding other human rights

Key Principles for Regulating Online Freedom of Expression

Some experts have identified four primary principles for effectively regulating the practice of freedom of expression on the internet:

1. **Minimum Restrictions on Internet Access:**

There should be a basic standard ensuring minimal barriers to accessing the internet, allowing individuals to connect freely.

2. **Equal Application of Rules to Senders and Receivers:**

Any restrictions or regulations must apply uniformly to both the sender and the receiver, ensuring a balanced approach to accountability.

3. **Public Access to Online Content:**

All published content and information on the internet should be accessible to the public, promoting transparency and inclusivity.

4. **Universal Internet Access and Usage:**

Everyone should have equal opportunities to access and use the internet for receiving, transmitting, and publishing information, ensuring equitable digital participation for all.

Balancing Freedom with Order

While freedom of expression is a fundamental right, it must be regulated to prevent chaos and protect other rights and freedoms. Unregulated exercise of this freedom can lead to:

- **Infringement on Individual Rights:** Violating the privacy and freedoms of others.
- **Harm to Societal Values:** Undermining cultural and social norms.
- **Threats to National Security and Social Stability:** Allowing harmful content to disrupt peace and order.

Thus, internet freedom of expression, like other forms of expression, is not absolute. Regulations are necessary to maintain public order, uphold social values, and protect the common good. These limitations will be discussed in detail later in their appropriate context

The Impact of the Internet's Unique Nature on Freedom of Opinion and Expression

The internet's unique characteristics distinguish it from traditional means of exercising freedom of expression. These features include ease of use, simplicity, and low costs, making it widely accessible for achieving various objectives. However, its distinctive nature also makes it difficult to subject the internet to the same legal systems governing traditional media.

This uniqueness significantly influences the exercise of freedom of expression, particularly in defining its **substantive and administrative scope**:

Substantive Scope

The legal framework for broadcasting information online aligns with existing legal systems related to similar activities within a country. In democratic systems, such frameworks are designed to uphold and protect rights and freedoms, including the right to express opinions, access information, and disseminate content without undue restrictions or censorship.

However, the internet's nature imposes certain limitations on exercising freedom of expression. Unlike traditional media, the internet operates without geographical boundaries or centralized control. Data is transmitted through interconnected networks comprising thousands of links between individuals and institutions worldwide. This lack of fixed pathways complicates efforts to monitor and regulate the flow of information effectively.

For example, content may be uploaded by one user, then quickly disseminated across the network, making it accessible from anywhere on the globe. Such decentralization poses significant challenges to regulating expression online, especially for harmful or illegal content originating outside a country's jurisdiction.

Administrative Scope

The internet transforms users from passive recipients into active participants. Individuals can publish documents, share research,

and send messages, contributing to discussions across the digital landscape. This interactive capability ensures equal opportunities for everyone to exercise their rights to freedom of expression and access to information, reducing disparities among users.

Nevertheless, not all online content qualifies as an exercise of free expression. To fall within this category, information must adhere to applicable legal standards, whether constitutional, statutory, or international. Content falling outside these boundaries—such as terrorism-related propaganda, illegal trade materials, or defamatory and abusive statements—cannot be justified under freedom of expression.

The misuse of these freedoms can harm public safety, societal values, and national security. For example, allowing harmful content on social media platforms without regulation could lead to a proliferation of negative material that threatens societal stability. Therefore, the substantive limits of freedom of expression must align with the public interest and be enforced through appropriate legal measures.

Defining Harmful Content

Harmful or illegal content refers to ideas, opinions, and information published online that negatively impact a country's values and public interests. Each nation determines what constitutes harmful content based on its own laws and cultural norms. Regulatory frameworks must address these definitions to safeguard societal well-being while maintaining digital freedom

The Role of the Internet in Shaping Freedom of Opinion and Expression

The advancements and developments associated with the internet have made it possible to distinguish between permissible and impermissible content, allowing for the regulation and restriction of certain types of information. The internet, as a medium for freedom of expression, plays a critical role in amplifying and strengthening this right. Due to its vast reach, rapid dissemination

of information, and unparalleled usage, the internet is the most prominent platform for sharing and accessing information.

However, while the internet facilitates freedom of expression, it also necessitates restrictions to safeguard certain segments of society. The challenge lies in establishing effective regulations for online expression, particularly to:

- Define the scope of permissible content.
- Protect users from harmful information.
- Address unethical or vulgar content that negatively influences media development and user education.

Historical Context of Freedom of Expression Regulation

Concerns about the limits of freedom of expression arose as early as the late 18th century, coinciding with the recognition of public rights and freedoms. At the time, many believed that unregulated freedom of expression posed a significant threat to public interests. Ultimately, freedom of expression was recognized as a fundamental right, protected from interference except when necessary to safeguard public welfare, within the limits prescribed by law.

The U.S. Supreme Court referred to this concept as the “free flow of news,” emphasizing the vital role of unrestricted information exchange in forming public opinion and supporting societal growth.

Administrative and Regulatory Challenges

While the unique characteristics of the internet make it a powerful tool for expression, they also complicate its regulation. Features such as ease of access, low costs, and extensive reach have made the internet widely popular, often overshadowing traditional media. However, these same traits present significant obstacles to implementing traditional methods of oversight and accountability.

Some of these challenges include:

- The **impossibility of universal censorship**, as the global nature of the internet allows for the rapid spread of information beyond geographical and regulatory boundaries.

- The **difficulty of enforcement**, where traditional regulatory mechanisms may fail unless extreme measures, such as site blocking, are adopted.

Specialized Approaches to Regulation

To address these issues, two primary forms of regulation have emerged:

1. **Self-regulation:** Implemented by the platform operators themselves, who establish rules for permissible content.
2. **Judicial oversight:** Initiated by stakeholders seeking court orders to remove or block content deemed harmful, such as materials inciting terrorism, racism, or threats to national unity.

Conclusion

Technological advancements have profoundly influenced human rights, particularly freedom of opinion and expression, enshrined in modern constitutions and international treaties. The internet has become a central medium for exercising this freedom, offering an accessible platform for all individuals, regardless of profession or social class.

Freedom of expression evolves alongside societal progress, transitioning from traditional written and visual media to modern digital platforms, including the internet and social networks. While these developments expand opportunities for expression, they also demand robust legal frameworks to balance freedom with responsibility.