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# **FUNDAMENTALS OF MEDIA LAW**

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## **Fundamentals of Media Law**

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*“The biggest battle is the war against ignorance.”*

*Mustafa Kemal Atatürk*

## **RESUME**

The global changing environment is harshly changing the media landscape. In times of global deception, the liberal perimeter is narrowing. War in Ukraine, disinformation and hybrid threats, pandemic, and energy crises escalated with the crisis of the values upon which our society has been built. In such times, it is of extreme importance to protect media freedom and freedom of expression in general. This textbook is aimed at the undergraduate students of law. It elaborates on basic concepts of media law and legal aspects that should be introduced in the wider spectrum of what we recognize as the media world. Although media law is relatively well developed, it is certainly approaching emerging norms and concepts that are yet to be challenged.

Fundamentals of media law cover sources and concept of media law, basic media theories, freedom of expression and margin of appreciation, self-regulation, internet law, media regulators and press law, the notion of new media, cyber security and internet governance to provide a framework of questions that must be taken into consideration for any academician or practitioner.

**Keywords:** *media, freedom, expression, liberty, security, press law*

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*To my students - this book is for you*

*To my colleagues - this book is because of you*

*To my family and friends that become so - this book is due to you*

## ***Introduction***

### ***'No Man is an Island'***

*“No man is an island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the main; if a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were, as well as any manner of thy friends or of thine own were; any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind. And therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; it tolls for thee.”*

Can you imagine spending a day without interaction and communication? Shall there be a world as we know it without the Internet or television? Maybe, but that would not be called a society. That would not be our world, the world we live in, since what makes society more than a bunch of individuals and enables progress is communication and the channels created to make it faster and easier. Although communication thus represents the world we live in, it is kind of both imaginary and real. We can touch our devices and media receivers, and we can shift the channel if we don't like the program, but still, somewhere out of our micro cosmos it occurs and affects our everyday existence and even the tiniest decisions that we relay our lives upon. That's why, the media landscape is the bloodstream our society relays on. Media are the blood vessels that enable circulation and keep the system alive. That's why, it is of immense importance to create an enabling environment for media development and existence, ensuring that neither extreme would happen to humanity as a whole: censorship, erosion of privacy, misbalance of liberty and security, extreme empowerment of specific elites, and so on. That's why, this book is for you - no matter whether you are a media consumer or content creator, editor or a journalist, or just a citizen of the world that is constantly on the move, as a pioneer step towards greater debate and awareness.

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