

# Für den Erhalt der freien Meinungsäußerung Oberlausitzer Erklärung 2018 der Bürgerinitiative «Die 89er»

gl. Die Oberlausitz ist die südöstlichste Region Deutschlands, im Dreiländereck Deutschland-Tschechien-Polen gelegen. Die größte Stadt Görlitz wurde 1945 in einen deutschen und einen polnischen Teil östlich der Neisse geteilt. Heute ist die an Baudenkmalern reiche Stadt wunderschön restauriert, eine neu gebaute Fußgängerbrücke führt seit 2004 über die Neisse ins polnische Zgorzelec.

Bereits zu DDR-Zeiten galten die Oberlausitzer, mehr noch als Sachsen insgesamt, als besonders eigenständig. Westfernsehen konnte nicht empfangen werden, man lebte im sogenannten «Tal der Ahnungslosen», was aus heutiger Sicht vielleicht von Vorteil war.

Heute sehen viele in der Oberlausitz und in Sachsen Parallelen zwischen den heutigen politischen Zuständen im vereinigten Deutschland und den letzten DDR-Zeiten. Sie verlangen das Recht auf freie Meinungsäußerung.

Die folgende Erklärung soll mit bis zum 29. September 2018 gesammelten Unterschriften dem Landrat des Landkreises Bautzen, dem Ministerpräsidenten von Sachsen und an Vertreter der regionalen und öffentlich-rechtlichen Medien übergeben werden.

## Wer sind wir ?

In der Gruppe «Die 89er» haben sich Bürger unserer Heimat zusammengefunden, die sich zu den Werten der freien Meinungsäußerung und der achtsamen Gesprächskultur bekennen, welche einst die friedliche Wende 1989 prägten.

## Was wollen wir ?

Wir fordern das Ende der negativen Darstellung unserer Heimat Oberlausitz und ihrer Menschen durch eine Minderheit. Insbesondere von den regionalen Medien sowie den öffentlich-rechtlichen Medienanstalten erwarten wir eine objektive und nicht wertende Berichterstattung. Die Abgeordneten des Landkreises, der Landrat sowie die Vertreter der Oberlausitz im Land- und Bundestag sollen sich dazu klar positionieren.

Des weiteren fordern wir alle Institutionen auf, sich für den Erhalt der Versammlungs- und Redefreiheit gemäß Art. 5 des Grundgesetzes einzusetzen.

## Oberlausitzer Erklärung

Mit großer Sorge beobachten wir, wie die Spaltung der Gesellschaft voranschreitet. Eine neue Art der Denunziation und Verleumdung ist dafür mitverantwortlich. Menschen aus der bürgerlichen Mitte unserer Gesellschaft werden von einer kleinen Clique angegriffen, diffamiert und verleumdet, weil sie die Zustände in unserem Lande hinterfragen und kritisieren. Unter dem Deckmantel des «Kampfes für Demokratie und Toleranz» werden diese Werte selbst nicht nur ad absurdum geführt, sondern systematisch bekämpft. Die hetzerische Wortwahl dieser Demagogen in den sozialen Netzwerken, im Internet, aber auch über regionale Medien hat die Grenze des Erträglichen überschritten. Es darf nicht sein, dass Menschen auf Grund ihrer politischen Überzeugung diskriminiert werden und zu deren gesellschaftlichem Ausschluss aufgerufen wird. Wohin dies führt, musste unser Volk bereits zweimal leidvoll erfahren. Wir sehen unsere Pflicht darin, dieser Entwicklung entgegenzutreten, um der seit 1989 überwunden geglaubten Ideologisierung Einhalt zu gebieten.

## Erstunterzeichner

*RA Ingo Frings (FSV Budissa Bautzen), Dr. Christian Haase, Ingolf Schön (Unternehmer), Tobias Hellebrand (Zahnarzt), Lutz Keller (SV Bautzen), Rolf Lehmann, Lutz Neumann (Bäckermeister), Frank Peschel (Redakteur «Bautzener Bote»), Katrin & Dietmar Förster (Apotheke Oppach), Michael Ubl (Markthändler), Steffen Schmidt (Makler), Dirk Manitz (Unternehmer)*

## Schirmherr

Willy Wimmer (Staatssekretär a. D., Mitglied des Deutschen Bundestages 1976–2009)

**Sammelstellen für Gleichgesinnte in Bautzen:** Reifencenter Schön (Neusalzaer Str. 9), Hentschke Bau (Zeppelinstr. 15), Bäckerei Neumann (Ziegelstr. 1), Bäckerei Jacob (Wilthener Str. 11), Hotel Residence (Wilthener Str. 32), Holzwurm SpielundZeug (Kornmarkt 4b)

**Sammelstellen im Kreisgebiet:** Schwanen-Apotheke (Str. der Jugend 1, Oppach), Fitnessclub Prima Klima (Guttauer Landstr. 15a, Malschwitz), An- & Verkauf Kühn (Kamenzer Str. 3, Bischofswerda) –

**weitere Sammelstellen kommen hinzu** und sind als solche gekennzeichnet.

# Don't Share This! EU's New Copyright Law Could Kill the Free Internet

By [Neil Clark](#)

Global Research, September 24, 2018

[RT Op-Ed](#) 26 September 2018



**It's basically a battle between billionaires Axel Springer SE and Google. But it is ordinary internet users who will fall victim to the EU's new copyright law, which urgently needs modification.**

It's good to share. But the European Parliament clearly doesn't think so. Its new copyright [legislation](#), passed last week, clamps down quite severely on sharing things online. The dynamism of the internet is at threat. When **Tim Berners-Lee**, the creator of the World Wide Web, [warns](#) us of the dangers the new law poses, we should all sit up straight and pay attention.

For a start, the legislation shifts the responsibility for the uploading of copyright material to the internet platforms themselves. Beforehand it was the job of the companies who thought their copyright was infringed to do this. Many don't bother, and are happy to see their material uploaded to sites like YouTube as they know it promotes an artist's work and boosts sales. But all that is likely to change.

Under Article 13, platforms would have to install "*upload filters*". YouTube could be shorn of much of its content. Big sites would probably survive but, as ZDNet [warns](#) here, smaller sites could easily be put out of business by "*copyright trolls*".

Not that there's anything wrong of course, with sensible protection of copyright. As a prolific five-articles-a-week writer and author I can't tell you how frustrated and angry I feel when I see my work "*pirated*" by a commercial website which hasn't even asked my permission to reprint it, let alone offer me payment. Copyright law needs reform for the digital age. There needs to be an easy way for creators of content to receive payment from those who have stolen their work. The trouble is, the EU has used a sledgehammer to crack a nut.

Look at the way the ability to link to, and quote from, other work without payment, is threatened by the directive.

Sites like RT's 'Op-ed' section, which you are reading now, would be adversely affected and may be even put out of action. One of the advantages of writing an article for an online site over print is that links to articles mentioned can easily be inserted. This enables the reader to see for him/herself the original source. But Article 11 of the Directive raises fears that payment may, in certain circumstances, have to be paid to sites which are linked to. Being able to quote freely from other articles, so long as they are credited, is surely a good thing. It's essential for instance when you are writing a piece dissecting another. But under the new legislation all but the very briefest quotes may have to be paid for. Think how much that would restrict quality journalism and hinder the free exchange of knowledge.

Then there's the threat to memes, one of the most entertaining aspects of online life. It's true that memes are often based on material which technically is copyrighted. But isn't legislating against them taking it all too far? Article 13 [states](#) that

*“online content sharing service providers and right holders shall cooperate in good faith in order to ensure that unauthorised protected works or other subject matter are not available on their services.”*

That could mean you tweeting a GIF of Manchester United manager **Jose Mourinho** showing great disinterest in a topic could fall 'foul' of the law.

[via GIPHY](#)

So to get over this, you might think of going to a football match yourself, taking a photo of the player, manager, team, or the stadium, and then tweeting that. Be careful, you could be “red-carded” under Article 12a, as Wired in their 'Explainer' piece points out [here](#) (do we have to pay them for the link, Ed?).

The overall impact of the legislation, if it becomes law in member states, will be stultifying. We'll all be turned into nervous wrecks, worried that we have infringed the new laws in one way or another. Don't we have enough stress already in our lives without the European Parliament adding to it? What's made the Internet so fandabidozi (will we have to pay The Krankies copyright to use that term?!), is that it has, up to now, been free to grow organically. Blogs that attract readers thrive, those that don't go to the wall. But the very fact that it's been a relatively free space, alarms the control freaks and brain-washers.

The EU legislation, bad as it is in its own right, must be seen as part of a wider attempt to clamp down on free expression and the free exchange of ideas in the West at a time when fewer people than ever before believe establishment narratives. This month a British MP by the name of Lucy Powell, launched a [bill](#) in Parliament entitled the 'Online Forums Bill' to ban private Facebook groups which promote “hate”, “racism” and “fake news”. But who defines what these terms actually mean?

The authorities, that's who, and they will use their powers selectively and hypocritically to silence anyone who poses a threat to those living very comfortable

lives inside the castle. Just look at how the ‘fake news’ debate has been framed in such a way to equate ‘fake news’ with ‘Russian news’, ignoring the promulgation of ‘fake news’ by non-Russian media about Iraqi WMDs which led to a war which killed over 1m people.

Powell’s [bill](#) comes on top of the enormous pressure that companies like Facebook have been placed under to toe the line and flag up content from non-approved providers. We were told that in July, Twitter had purged of about 70 million accounts. Censorship is coming back under the guise of “*fighting extremism*”, “*countering fake news*”, or “*countering the scourge of anti-Semitism.*” If they want to censor it they’ll find a noble sounding, virtue-signaling excuse. We need to resist this, and resist it strongly.

In free societies it should be up to internet users themselves to decide what articles and outlets they read, what Facebook groups they join (closed or otherwise), and what Twitter accounts they follow, and not Big Brother or any other kind of politically correct thought police. And the EU should be concerning itself not with trying to control the internet, through manufactured ‘concerns’ over copyright, but in solving the pressing problems affecting Europe’s economies. Youth unemployment stood at around 43 percent in Greece, 33 percent in Spain and 32 percent in Italy, the last time I [looked](#). What help will the Copyright Directive be to the young jobless ?

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Note to readers: please click the share buttons above. Forward this article to your email lists. Crosspost on your blog site, internet forums. etc.

**Neil Clark** is a journalist, writer, broadcaster and blogger. He has written for many newspapers and magazines in the UK and other countries including *The Guardian, Morning Star, Daily and Sunday Express, Mail on Sunday, Daily Mail, Daily Telegraph, New Statesman, The Spectator, The Week, and The American Conservative.* He is a regular pundit on RT and has also appeared on BBC TV and radio, Sky News, Press TV and the Voice of Russia. He is the co-founder of the Campaign For Public Ownership @PublicOwnership. His award winning blog can be found at [www.neilclark66.blogspot.com](http://www.neilclark66.blogspot.com). He tweets on politics and world affairs @NeilClark66

**Shutting Down Free Speech in America:**

# Government and Lobbyists Work Together to Destroy the First Amendment

By [Philip Giraldi](#)

Global Research, September 24, 2018



*During the past several years, there has been increased pressure coming from some in the federal government aided and abetted powerful advocacy groups in the private sector to police social and alternative media. It is a multi-pronged attack on the First Amendment which has already limited the types of information that Americans have access to, thereby narrowing policy options to suit those in power.*

The process has been ostensibly driven by concerns over alleged Russian interference in the 2016 election, but it is really about who controls and limits the public's right to know what is going on out of sight in Washington and New York City, where politics and money come together. If one is interested in the free flow of information and viewpoints that comes with the alternative media, it certainly does not look that way. **Robert Parry** [described it](#) as a deliberate process of “demonizing and silencing dissent that questions mainstream narratives.”

Last October top executives from Facebook, Google and Twitter were summoned to Capitol Hill for a discussion of their role in what is alleged to be Russia's influence on the presidential campaign and went back home contrite and promising to improve. They have indeed improved by punishing members whose views have been found to be unacceptable, blocking them and suspending their access to the sites. Meanwhile, the federal government for its part has attempted to silence independent non-U.S. based voices by declaring Russian media outlets *RT America* and *Sputnik* to be “foreign agents,” requiring them to register under the [Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 \(FARA\)](#). It is an unprecedented action against a news agency and invites quid-pro-quo for U.S. media operating overseas, leaving the American public more ignorant of world affairs than it already is.

Qatar based *Al-Jazeera*, which has been [particularly targeted](#) by **Jonathan Greenblatt** of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) as “a major exporter of hate against the Jewish people,” will also be required to register with FARA to comply with the new National Defense Authorization Act. *Al-Jazeera*, it should be noted, has employed undercover investigative journalism to expose the corruption of Britain’s government by Israeli supported Jewish groups. It’s similar series on the activity of Zionist lobbyists in America is on hold due to threats from Jewish organizations to severely punish the network if the documentary should ever be aired.

More recently Facebook has been active in removing accounts and advertising, much of it pro-Palestinian or otherwise critical of Israel, but also to include highly respectable *Telesur*’s “The Empire Files,” which looked at the consequences of U.S. sanctions on Venezuela. Anything that criticizes the corporate worldview is fair game for censorship. *American Herald Tribune*, which is critical of U.S. foreign policy in many areas, has recently had its Gmail shut down while Google also stopped servicing ads on its website. Its Facebook page was also closed, [all done without any warning](#) or explanation.

### [Social Media: Censored, Blocked, Suspended. Expect Even Less Freedom of the Internet in 2018](#)

One of the organizations most interested in limiting conversations about what is going on in the world is the ADL which [claims](#) that it is “the world’s leading organization combating anti-Semitism and hate of all kinds,” though it clearly excludes incitement or even physical harm directed against Palestinian Arabs resentful of the Israeli occupation of their country. Its definition of “hatred” is really quite selective and is focused on anyone criticizing Israel or Jewish related issues. Its goal is to have any such speech or writing categorized as anti-Semitism and, eventually, to have “hate crime” legislation that criminalizes such expressions.

It is particularly ironic that Israel, which [has now declared](#) that it is in no way subject to international law, has itself proposed across the board censorship of the most prominent social media platforms on a global scale by creating an “international coalition that would make limiting criticism of Israel its primary objective.” It would operate through a “loose coalition...[that] would keep an eye on content and where it is being posted, and members of the coalition would work to demand that the platforms remove the content...in any of their countries at the request of members.”

More recently, Israel has been exposed by Wikileaks as hosting a conference describing how it now has a [Command Center](#) that uses Artificial Intelligence (AI) to scan the internet worldwide looking for “anti-Semitic” content. For Israel, anti-Semitic content means any criticism of its government or its behavior towards the Arabs. It reportedly pulls 200,000 posts a day and then reviews them using AI for content considered to be unacceptable. The roughly 10,000 posts determined to be anti-Semitic are then passed on to “intelligence and law enforcement agencies” in countries that have hate speech legislation for further action. The Israeli government also complains directly to the social media source to have the material taken down and works through Jewish organizations in cities and countries where there

is considerable “anti-Semitic” activity to pressure governments to act even if there is no legal basis.

As most genuine independent journalism is currently limited to the alternative media, and that media lives on the internet, the ADL and those who are acting in collusion with the Israeli government are focusing on “cyberhate” as the problem and are working with major internet providers to voluntarily censor their product. On October 10th, 2017 the ADL issued a [press release](#) out of its New York City offices to explain just how far the censorship process has gone. The organization boasted of the fact that it was working with Facebook, Google, Microsoft and Twitter “to engineer new solutions to stop cyberhate.” Apple is not identified by name in the press release but one should presume that it is also involved, as well as YouTube, which is owned by Google. When you consider that the associates in this venture with ADL are vast corporations that control huge slices of the communications industry, the consequences of some kind of corporate decision on what constitutes “hate” become clear. Combatting “cyberhate” will inevitably become across-the-board censorship for viewpoints that are considered to be unacceptable, including any criticism of Israel.

ADL will be the “convener” for the group, providing “insight on how hate and extremist content manifests – and constantly evolves-online.” Which means it will define the problem, which it calls the “spew[ing] of hateful ideologies” so the corporate world can take steps to block such material. And “the initiative will be managed by ADL’s Center for Technology and Society in Silicon Valley.”

Facebook already employs [thousands of censors](#) and there is literally no limit to how far those who want to restrict material that they consider offensive will go. To be sure, most groups who want to limit the flow of information do not have the clout or resources of ADL with its [\\$64 million annual operating budget](#) so its “cyberhate” campaign will no doubt serve as a model that others will then follow. For ADL, reducing [criticism of Israel](#) is a much-sought-after goal. For the rest of us, it is a trip into darkness.

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*This article was originally published on [American Herald Tribune](#).*

**Philip M. Girdali** is a former CIA counter-terrorism specialist and military intelligence officer who served nineteen years overseas in Turkey, Italy, Germany, and Spain. He was the CIA Chief of Base for the Barcelona Olympics in 1992 and was one of the first Americans to enter Afghanistan in December 2001. Phil is Executive Director of the Council for the National Interest, a Washington-based advocacy group that seeks to encourage and promote a U.S. foreign policy in the Middle East that is consistent with American values and interests. He is a frequent contributor to *Global Research*.