

Sea Jay Foundation

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Fundamental Freedoms including freedom of Expression

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The Sea jay Foundation recommends the nations in the OSCE Region reaffirm the principles on which our society was founded, especially freedom of speech and freedom of expression. Elaborate codes and bodies of laws to protect grown adults from being offended or their feelings being hurt is absurd. There is no right to not be offended. Hurt feelings are part of the rough and tumble of politics in a free society. As Harry Truman once said, "if you can't stand the heat, stay out of the kitchen!" These misguided attempts to implement such are a cure that's worse than the ill.

Certainly "freedom of expression" includes Free Speech. To quote the Copenhagen Declaration of 1990 paragraph 9.1 "everyone will have the right to freedom of expression including the right to communication. This right will include freedom to hold opinions and to receive and impart information." Imprisoning Tommy Robinson in the UK has violated this Declaration.

This tyranny of political correctness has curtailed our liberties in ways we could scarcely imagine just a few years ago. It is time to reverse this trend in the OSCE Region.