CIVIC SPACE INITIATIVE

Resource List

The Civic Space Initiative (CSI) is a collaborative effort funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) to protect and expand civic space in a time of increasing restrictions. The CSI is implemented by Article 19, CIVICUS, the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, and the World Movement for Democracy. This document presents a collection of civic space resources developed by the CSI partners and is intended to support individuals and civil society organizations working on civic space issues around the globe.

Article 19

Article 19 is a human rights organization with a specific mandate and focus on the defense and promotion of freedom of expression and freedom of information. For more information, click here.

- **Tackling Hate: Action on UN standards to promote inclusion, diversity and pluralism** (2018) explores using UN standards to combat intolerance and hate.
- **Side-stepping Rights: Regulating Speech by Contract** (2018) addresses the compliance of dominant social media platforms with international freedom of expression standards.
- **Getting connected: Freedom of expression, telcos and ISPs** (2017) examines obligations of telcos ISPs to protect human rights, in particular the right to freedom of expression.
- **PREVENT – PROTECT – PROSECUTE: Acting on UN HRC Resolution 33/2** (2017) provides guidance on ensuring the safety for journalists and end impunity for crimes against them.
- **Freedom of expression and information and persons with disabilities** (2016) outlines challenges to the right to freedom of expression of persons with disabilities.
- **Background Paper: The Right to Protest Principles** (2016) explains the concerns and experience that led to the development of the Right to Protest Principles aimed at guaranteeing the respect, protection, and fulfillment of the right to protest.
- **Right to Online Anonymity** (2015) outlines the implications of anonymity and encryption for the right to freedom of expression in the digital age.
CIVICUS

CIVICUS is a global alliance of civil society organizations and activists dedicated to strengthening citizen action and civil society throughout the world. For more information, click here.

- **The CIVICUS Monitor** *(ongoing)* provides reliable, up-to-date data collected by civil society actors on the state of civil society freedoms across the globe.
- **State of Civil Society Report** *(2019)* analyses how contemporary events and trends impact civil society, and how civil society is responding to the major issues and challenges of the day.
- **SPEAK!** *(2017-2018)* responds to increasing attacks on basic freedoms and aims to raise awareness, break down barriers, and build global solidarity.
- **CIVICUS at the UN Human Rights Council** *(2015-2018)* contains statements, advocacy letters, and UPR documents detailing CIVICUS’ interaction with the UN Human Rights Council.
- **The Enabling Environment National Assessments** *(2014-2018)* is designed to assess the legal, regulatory and policy environment for civil society worldwide.
- **Campaign tools** *(2016)* offers toolkits for civil society actors engaged in the SDG agenda on advocacy, campaigning, and engaging with governments on SDG implementation.
- **UN Special Procedures and UPR tools** *(2016)* offers toolkits for civil society on reporting human rights violations to UN Special Procedures and on UPR procedures.
- **Media Tools and Support Mechanism Database** *(2016)* offers toolkits for civil society and media on reporting on civic space and on using mechanisms for civil society support.
- **10 Principles of Good Practice for the Intelligent Funder** *(2011)* offers a toolkit for donors and civil society on how they can face major crises together, effectively and intelligently.

The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law

The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (ICNL) works alongside partners at all levels to promote and protect an enabling legal environment for civic freedoms, philanthropy, and public participation. For more information, click here.

- **Effective Donor Responses to the Challenge of Closing Civic Space** *(2018)* examines civic space constraints, why donor governments should be countering these trends, and how.
- **The Civic Freedom Monitor** *(ongoing)* provides up-to-date information on legal issues affecting civil society and civic freedoms in 54 countries and 8 multilateral organizations.
- **ICNL Research Library** *(ongoing)* is a searchable database of laws, reports, and other resources currently containing 3939 resources from 206 countries and territories.
- **Philanthropy Law Reports** *(ongoing)* present timely information on national laws and regulations affecting philanthropy in various countries.
• **US Protest Law Tracker (ongoing)** tracks initiatives at the state and federal level since November 2016 that restrict the right to protest in the United States.

• **Global Trends in NGO Law (2009 – 2017)** synthesizes key developments relating to legal and regulatory issues that affect NGOs around the world.

• **The State of Civic Freedoms in the Middle East and North Africa (2018)** assesses the environment for civil society organizations (CSOs) and civic freedoms in five MENA countries.

• **A Global Assault on Nonprofits (2015)** examines the global scope of the backlash against civil society since 2012.

• **Ten Ideas for Governments Working to Safeguard Civic Space (2015)** seeks to inform governmental efforts to safeguard civic space.

**World Movement for Democracy**

World Movement for Democracy (WMD) is an international network of individuals and civil society organizations committed to advancing democracy worldwide. For more, please click [here](#).

• **Set them Free Campaign (ongoing)** aims to raise awareness and build solidarity with political prisoners around the world and their families.


• **Right to Access Funding Resource Hub (2017)** offers a collection of resources for civil society actors on laws in different countries and regions restricting the right to receive funding.

• **Faces of Civil Society (2015)** documents the inspirational stories of four courageous World Movement participants and activists.

• **Defending Civil Society Toolkit (2014)** provides tips and strategies for organizations and activists to consider as they plan their efforts to reform legal frameworks for civil society.

• **Defending Civil Society (2012) [with ICNL]** describes international norms protecting civil society and legal restrictions imposed on civil society in 14 countries that violate these.