

Human Dimension Implementation Meeting

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Freedom of expression, free media and information

.As I emphasized yesterday Azerbaijani state takes consistent steps to further develop the freedom of speech and information, as well as to ensure the safety of journalists, transparency and responsible media approach and intends to continue its efforts in the future, and is ready for open dialogue on these issues with all international structures and local organizations.

The authorities regularly express their attitude to issues raised in social networks, treat the internet as one of the sources of information and use it. From observations and analysis, it becomes clear that in recent years social networks have been trying to expand the possibilities of influencing public opinion. But here it's necessary to note that along with the traits that positively characterize the role of social networks, negative trends also appear. On one hand, social networks open up new perspectives in ensuring freedom of expression and opinion, on the other hand, sometimes the mutual influence between social networks and human rights creates undesirable situations. Thus, there are cases of humiliation of honor and dignity of people in social networks, and this means violation of human rights. Unfortunately, such negative cases are sometimes found in the activities of transnational media as well.

The positive point associated with broadcasting transnational media structures in the country is that the population has the opportunity to receive up-to-date information about the processes taking place in the world. The negative point is that sometimes under the influence of various political circles or lobby groups, transnational media structures are trying to manipulate public opinion, disseminate biased, subjective information in contradiction to principles such as objectivity and impartiality.

Summarizing the above mentioned, it can be concluded that the Azerbaijani government considers ensuring freedom of speech and press, the development of the mass media outlets as one of the main directions of state