

REFLECTION OF FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND  
INFORMATION IN INTERNATIONAL DOCUMENTS

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**Abstract:** In analyzing and mutually comparing regulatory documents, similarities and differences were identified. The main goal of this is to study the international community's protection of freedom of speech and freedom of information in the legal norms of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) in a comparative analysis, and how these provisions are reflected in international documents. is to reveal what he has done.

**Key words:** international documents, word, law, human, information.

Freedom of speech is one of the personal and political rights of citizens. Currently, in most countries, the so-called «freedom of information» is a component of the general right. Means the ability to express one's opinion in a public way (oral and written using mass media). The right to freedom of speech and opinion is recognized in international documents that embody a set of basic universal values for the proper functioning of all democratic societies. In the process of analysis and mutual comparison of regulatory documents on strengthening the freedom of information in the world, it is revealed that the basis of all legal norms is the protection of freedom of speech and information of the international community and the formation of the rules, mechanisms, and institutions necessary for this. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) are the main documents of human rights recognized at the international level. These documents contain articles on freedom of speech and opinion, which protect the right of a person to freely express his opinion.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the basis of the international regulatory documents related to media activity. It was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations (UN) on December 10, 1948. This document consists of 30 articles. It is the first international document recognized by independent Uzbekistan. In it, for the first time in the history of international relations, the scope of basic human rights and freedoms, which must be observed by everyone, has been defined. Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights states: “Everyone has the right to freedom of belief and freedom of expression, which includes the freedom to practice one's beliefs without hindrance and to impart information and ideas through any media, regardless of national borders”, includes freedom to seek, receive and impart

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Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights protects everyone's right to freedom of speech and opinion. This right includes the freedom to think, seek, receive, and impart information. These freedoms are the basis of a democratic society and should be exercised without any censorship or restrictions. Citizens can actively participate in state management if they can freely express their opinions. At the same time, the free exchange of information and ideas creates the ground for innovation and social change in society. Although Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights protects freedom of expression, in some cases this freedom can be limited. For example, some restrictions may be imposed to protect the rights of others, that is, to ensure that a person's freedom of speech does not violate the reputation or rights of others, and to maintain the state's national security or public order.

Another international document developed by the UN is the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), which was adopted by the UN in 1966 and consists of 16 parts and 53 articles. Articles 14, 19 and 20 of the Pact provide for the protection of citizens' freedom of speech and information. For example, paragraph 1 of Article 19 states that «Every person has the right to have his opinion without any obstacles», while paragraph 2 states that «Every person has the right to express his opinion freely; this right includes the freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of any kind, regardless of national boundaries, whether orally, in writing, or through the press, or in artistic forms, or through any other means of their choice».

In the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, freedom of speech includes the expression of ideas and information in any form - oral, written, artistic and other means of communication. This freedom should be exercised regardless of national borders, which will strengthen international relations and exchange of information and contribute to public development. In addition, freedom of speech is important for personal development and social progress. Through this freedom, individuals freely express their thoughts and new ideas and innovations are created.

Also, in this regulatory document, some restrictions are allowed in connection with the need to protect the rights of others, that is, freedom of speech is exercised under the condition of respecting the rights and reputation of others. This is necessary, for example, to prevent offenses such as defamation and insult. Certain restrictions on freedom of speech may also be imposed in order to ensure state security, public order, public health, or morals. These restrictions should be necessary and legal in a democratic society. These are aimed at preventing abuse of freedom of speech.

The common aspects of these two current normative norms are that both documents include and protect freedom of opinion and speech as basic human rights, standardize human rights at the international level, and encourage states to respect these rights. The rules regarding the search and distribution of information and ideas, that is, the norms providing the right to freely search, receive and distribute information and ideas, are reflected in both. Both documents also emphasize that restrictions on freedom of speech should be implemented in a democratic society when necessary and on a legal basis, which prevents the abuse of rights. In the process of analysis, it can be observed that Article 19 of the UDHR provides freedom of dissemination of information and ideas “regardless of frontiers and through any means”, which is not directly mentioned in Article 19 of the ICCPR. Moreover, another notable difference between them is that Article 19 of the ICCPR defines freedom of expression in more detail, which is summarized in the UDHR. The UDHR defines freedom of expression without specific restrictions, that is, there is no mention of restrictions. It is noted that the exercise of freedom of speech is associated with special obligations and responsibilities and that this right may be subject to certain legal restrictions. These restrictions must be necessary to respect the rights and dignity of others and to protect national security, public order, public health, or morals.

UDHR and ICCPR are important in protecting human freedom of speech and opinion. While the ICCPR describes these rights in general terms, the ICCPR elaborates them in more detail and includes freedom of conscience and religion. Both documents seek to ensure the right of individuals to freely disseminate information and ideas. Also, a comparison of the articles on freedom of speech and opinions of the UDHR and ICCPR documents shows that the UDHR defines general principles and expresses human rights declaratively. The ICCPR regulates these rights more clearly and indicates which restrictions may be applied to their exercise. These differences reflect different approaches to the protection and development of human rights.

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