

Doc. 36/2015

**RESOLUTION OF IAB 45 GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
ECUADOR**

**WHEREAS:**

The implementation of the Law on Communications has been a serious limitation on the exercise of Freedom of Expression in Ecuador, together with abuse of official channels by the Executive and public derision and intimidation of journalists, among other repressive practices

**CONSIDERING:**

That this law has been observed by the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and non-governmental organizations related to the defense of Freedom of Expression and Human Rights, for severely violating international standards and the American Convention on Human Rights itself.

That among other issues contrary to the doctrine of Freedom of Expression, the abovementioned body of law considers broadcasting as a public service, attributing the State the authority to monitor and control the quality of the information and opinions disseminated by the media.

That the "Superintendence of Information and Communication", totally dependent on the Executive Authority, has repeatedly exercised its extensive enforcement faculties conferred on it by that law, acting without judicial supervision or due process, to impose fines and to command the publication of replicas in an arbitrary and abusive manner.

That the figure of the "media lynching", which constitutes a criminalization of the right to expression and opinion, as well as imposing obligations such as hiring "professional" journalists in certain positions of the media, in clear opposition to international standards and the ruling of the Inter-American Court on "mandatory membership"; the imposition of ethical standards which scope is outlined in the law itself and which implementation may lead to abuses by the administrative authority, are absolutely incompatible with international standards.

**THE 45<sup>TH</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTING - IAB - MEETING IN SAN SALVADOR, REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR, RESOLVES:**

TO REJECT the implementation of a law that clearly contravenes the American Convention and complements the set of indirect measures systematically exercised by the Government of Ecuador to restrict Freedom of Expression and the operation of private and independent media.

San Salvador, October 14, 2015