

TODAY MARKS 9 YEARS OF THE CLOSURE OF RCTV

Today, May 27, 2016, marks nine years since the government of Venezuela ordered the illegal and illegitimate closure of Radio Caracas Television - RCTV.

As IAB has repeatedly stated, RCTV's case set a very serious subjugation of the rule of law, constitutional guarantees and International Treaties, since the right to Freedom of Expression of journalists, workers and executives of the channel was violated, as well as Venezuelans were deprived of a free, over-the-air media where they could access a source of information, ideas and opinions from various social sectors.

After a process of several years, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights of the OAS ruled to sentence the State of Venezuela to restore to RCTV the allocation of the frequency of the radio spectrum corresponding to Channel 2 television and ordered to return all the equipment that had been seized.

In its Considerations, the Court found that "the main purpose behind the decision not to renew the concession of the channel, was to silence its critical voice, therefore, a reparation is necessary in order to restore the plurality of media that was affected by the indirect restriction declared in this case. "

On this date, IAB reaffirms its unwavering commitment to Freedom of Expression and permanent solidarity with RCTV, demanding from the Government of Venezuela full compliance with all the items contained in the judgment of the Inter-American Court.