

IAB PRESS RELEASE ON FURTHER ACTS OF CENSORSHIP IN VENEZUELA

The International Association of Broadcasting - IAB strongly rejects and condemns the decision of the Venezuelan Government to prohibit the broadcasting of the Spanish CNN signal by pay TV companies of that country, in a new act of censorship that attacks Freedom of Expression.

The decision of the Venezuelan National Telecommunications Commission (CONATEL) is adopted three days after President Nicolás Maduro publicly criticized different reports and information distributed by the international signal.

IAB once again draws attention on the repeated practices promoted by the Government of Venezuela seeking to restrict the Venezuelan people to exercise their right to free access to information and selection of the contents of their preference, which are added to the implementation of measures that have led to the unjustified and illegal closure of radio and television stations, the persecution of journalists and communicators, as well as the restriction on access to paper for newspaper publishing.

The prohibition to distribute CNN Spanish signal in Venezuelan territory violates the American Convention on Human Rights and goes against international standards on Freedom of Expression, as well as the right of citizens to be freely informed of what happens in Venezuela.

The International Association of Broadcasting - IAB is an organization founded in 1946 that represents over 17.000 private radio and television stations and its goal is the defense of private and free broadcasting as well as the effectiveness of Freedom of Expression and Opinion.