

IAB rejects prohibition against RCN Television in Venezuela

The International Association of Broadcasting - IAB - expresses its rejection on the decision of the Government of Venezuela to prohibit the broadcast of the Colombian signal RCN Televisión in that country.

Last Thursday, August 24, CONATEL ordered cable television companies operating in Venezuela to withdraw RCN TV signal from their programming, in a new act of censorship that adds to what happened the day before, with the blocking of the signal Colombian Caracol TV. Thus, the Venezuelan people are deprived from access to two sources of information that provide quality content, which is a new and serious attack against the exercise of Freedom of Expression in the country.

As established in the Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the OAS, " Prior censorship, direct or indirect interference in or pressure exerted upon any expression, opinion or information transmitted through any means of oral, written, artistic, visual or electronic communication must be prohibited by law. Restrictions to the free circulation of ideas and opinions, as well as the arbitrary imposition of information and the imposition of obstacles to the free flow of information violate the right to freedom of expression.

These actions of censorship against RCN TV, Caracol TV and the cable operators reveal, once again, a systematic policy promoted by the regime of Nicolás Maduro to violate Fundamental Rights and the Right to Freedom of Expression 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.