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Model Training Materials: Hate Speech, Defamation and National Security

The Centre for Law and Democracy (CLD) is today releasing a new document, [*Model Training Materials: Hate Speech, Defamation and National Security*](#). These training materials focus on three commonly applied restrictions on freedom of expression under international human rights law. They are designed as a resource for professional networks of media lawyers and other organisations working to build the capacity of lawyers to defend media freedom.

“Hate speech, defamation and national security are among the most commonly applied and frequently abused restrictions on freedom of expression,” said Toby Mendel, CLD’s Executive Director. *“These training materials can help lawyers clearly delineate which rules are appropriate from the perspective of international human rights law and, where possible, use these standards to promote more rights-protective domestic legal frameworks.”*

The Materials consist of: 1) a Background Reading document describing core standards for each type of restriction; 2) sample exercises that can be used during training programmes; 3) discussion questions, also for use during trainings; and 4) sample agendas for a one and one-half hour or one-half-day workshop based on the materials.

This set of Model Training Materials is part of CLD’s *Promoting the Establishment of Networks of Media Lawyers Globally* project, currently in its second phase. This work is funded by the Global Media Defence Fund managed by UNESCO. The project provides resources and support to lawyers seeking to establish national level media lawyers’ networks. To learn more, see our [Brochure](#) describing the project and our [Media Lawyers’ Networks project information page](#).

If you are potentially interested in establishing a media lawyers’ network in your own country, please contact us. We can provide various forms of support to take this idea forward.

The Model Training Materials are available [here](#).

For further information about the project please contact:

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