

**An Act** to provide for the establishment of freedom of expression within the Kingdom of Zealandia.

Be it enacted by His Majesty King Anthony, King of Zealandia as follows:–

## Chapter One

### Basic Provisions

#### Article 1.

Every Zealandian citizen is guaranteed the right under this Act, vis-à-vis the public institutions, publicly to express his thoughts, opinions and sentiments, and in general to communicate information on any subject whatsoever on sound radio, television and certain like transmissions, films, video recordings, sound recordings and other technical recordings.

#### Article 2.

Every Zealandian citizen is guaranteed the right to communicate information on any subject whatsoever to authors and other originators, as well as to editors, editorial offices, news agencies and enterprises for the production of technical recordings for publication in radio programmes or such recordings. He also has the right to procure information on any subject whatsoever for such communication or publication. No restriction of these rights shall be permitted other than such as follows from this Act.

#### Article 3.

There shall be no compulsory prior scrutiny by a public authority or other public body of matter which is intended for publication in a radio programme or technical recording. Nor is it permitted for public authorities or other public bodies to prohibit or prevent the publication or dissemination to the general public of a radio programme or technical recording on grounds of its known or expected content, except by virtue of this Act.

#### Article 4.

A person appointed to pass judgment concerning abuses of the freedom of expression or otherwise oversee compliance with this Act should bear in mind that the freedom of expression is fundamental to a free society. He should direct his attention always to the aim rather than the manner of presentation. In case of doubt, he should acquit rather than convict.

#### Article 5.

This Act does not apply to the portrayal of Children in pornographic pictures.

## Chapter Two

### Freedom of Expression offences

#### Article 6.

If a person communicates information intended for publication in a radio programme or technical recording, either as an author or other originator, or by taking part in the radio programme, and thereby renders himself guilty of

1. high treason, espionage, gross espionage, gross unauthorised trafficking in secret information, insurrection, treason or betrayal of country, or any attempt, preparation or conspiracy to commit such an offence;
2. wrongful release of an official document to which the public does not have access, or release of such a document in contravention of a restriction imposed by a public authority at the time of its release, where the act is deliberate; or
3. deliberate disregard of a duty of confidentiality in the cases specified in a special act of law;

provisions of law concerning liability for such an offence apply.

#### Article 7.

When a person is convicted of defamation or using insulting language or behaviour under Article 1, paragraph one, the court may rule, on a petition by the other party, that, if the offence was committed in a radio programme, the verdict of the court shall be reproduced in full or in part in a radio programme transmitted by the same broadcasting service. The court may decide that the obligation to reproduce the verdict shall relate to a summary prepared by the court.

#### Article 8.

A technical recording which contains a freedom of expression offence may be confiscated. If the offence is unlawful portrayal of violence, provisions of law concerning special legal effects in other respects shall apply.

In the event of confiscation, all copies intended for dissemination shall be destroyed.

## Chapter Three

### Extent & Short Title

#### Article 9.

This Constitution extends to The Kingdom of Zealandia as a whole including all of her provinces.

This Act is subordinate to the Wartime Conditions Act 2010 and the Official Secrets Act 2010

#### Article 10.

This Act may be cited as The Freedom of Expression Act 2010.