

Submission

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Question/Indicator	Suggestion / Recommendation
<p><i>B.1 Is freedom of expression guaranteed in law, respected in practice, and widely exercised?</i></p> <p><i>Indicators:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Constitutional or legal guarantee of freedom of expression consistent with ICCPR Article 19, and evidence that it is respected and enforced by government³⁴</i> • <i>Constitutional or legal guarantee of press/media freedom</i> • <i>Assessment by credible agencies of extent and diversity of expression online and offline</i> 	<p>We suggest to drop the use of ICCPR Article 19 as a benchmark, as some countries (including Singapore), are not party to the ICCPR</p>
<p><i>B.2 Are any restrictions on freedom of expression in policy and practice narrowly defined, transparent and implemented in accordance with international rights agreements and HRC resolutions?</i></p> <p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Legal restrictions on freedom of expression are consistent with international rights agreements (including regional agreements) and respected by government</i> 	<p>We note that governments may not be party to certain international or regional rights agreements and should not be expected to be bound by them as such. Even HRC resolutions do not always enjoy an international consensus. As such, we are concerned that such indicators are problematic as there may be subjective interpretation of “restrictions on freedom of expression”.</p>
<p><i>B.3 Is there significant ex ante or ex post censorship of specific content posted on online services, applications or websites, and on what grounds is this exercised?</i></p>	<p>We suggest to drop the indicator as it is not clear who would submit quantitative and qualitative evidence of ex ante and ex post censorship.</p>

<p><i>Indicator:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Quantitative and qualitative evidence of ex ante and ex post censorship</i>	
<p><i>B.8 Do journalists or citizens practice self-censorship in order to avoid harassment by government or online abuse?</i></p>	<p>We suggest that UNESCO provide clear measurements on how UNESCO Secretariat or governments should measure evidence of self-censorship, keeping in mind the standard of evidence required. Nevertheless, we are concerned that this indicator is difficult to operationalise.</p>