

## COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

## SUB-COMMISSION ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND OF THE PRESS

## SECOND SESSION

## REPORT OF THE DRAFTING COMMITTEE ON THE COVENANT 20 JANUARY 1948

1. Article 17 of the Covenant should have three parts:
  - (1) a statement of the affirmative principles of freedom
  - (2) a statement of the limitations on freedom
  - (3) a statement of important procedural safeguards of freedom.
2. The formulation of the statement of the affirmative principles should be made after the Declaration article is closer to final form than at present.
3. The formulation of the statement of limitations should be postponed until the Sub-Commission has had the benefit of fuller discussion of this topic.
4. The formulation of the procedural safeguards should include at least two points:
  - (a) Censorship and other forms of preventive control of written and printed matter shall not exist except during international or civil war or a proclaimed state of siege.
  - (b) Each signatory State shall clearly define by law the causes within the scope of the limitations for which punishment or any other form of control may be imposed.
5. The problem of private control over the contents of publications is not appropriate for the Covenant, but should be fully considered when the Sub-Commission takes up rights, obligations, and practices.
6. The problems of monopolies and cartels should be treated in the same way.

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