

Edison Lanza

Resume

1. Edison Lanza is Uruguayan. He is a graduate from the Faculty of Law, University of the Republic, in 1997. He pursued graduate studies on free speech and criminal law at the same university. He is a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Social Sciences of the University of Buenos Aires, linked to the regulatory processes of audiovisual media in the region.
2. He was counsel for the Association of Uruguayan Press (APU) - the journalists' union in Uruguay, and has been a journalist in various Uruguayan media, a consultant for international organizations on issues of freedom of expression and right to information, an advocate with the American System of Human Rights, a member of several national bodies to monitor compliance of standards related to freedom of expression and access to public information, and has drafted several national and regional bills. He has also taught in universities of Uruguay and the region, and is an author with numerous publications.
3. He has represented victims of emblematic cases of public interest and human rights in Uruguay and before the Inter-American Protection System of Human Rights. This includes significant cases brought to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) relating to the protection of the right to freedom of expression.
 - He was counsel for the victim in the "Dogliani, Carlos v Uruguay" (P -228- 07) case, which ended in an amicable settlement with the respondent State under the auspices of the Commission. The settlement led the State to recognize that domestic judicial proceedings against the victim had breached his right to freedom of expression under the American Convention, and full compensation was established. The State was also forced to revise the offenses of defamation, libel and contempt in force in domestic law, whose text is incompatible with the American Convention on Human Rights. Pursuant to this process, Uruguay passed a legal reform that decriminalized offenses in communications.
 - Appearing before the Commission, he is also counsel in the case "Rabinovich David v Uruguay" (P -1224 -07) related to the right of access to public information. As part of this petition, an amicable solution was reached, with the auspices of the Commission, and the State agreed to recognize its violation of the right to information. The case was key for the Uruguayan Parliament to adopt the first Act on the Access to Public Information of Uruguay (No. 18,381), which guarantees the right to information in its territory. The Uruguayan government is preparing to formalize the resolution that confirmed the negotiation process, already concluded.
 - The candidate is also sponsoring an individual petition to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights relating to the right to freedom of expression in the field of advertising (P 471/13), which is under study.
 - He took part in the first thematic hearing on the right of access to information, as a member of the delegation of the Regional Alliance for Freedom of Expression and Information, held in Washington on October 24, 2011.

He has undertaken the strategic design, implementation of the action taken and subsequent collaboration in monitoring and enforcement of judgments and agreements reached with the State of Uruguay.

4. Teaching career linked to the area of freedom of information and journalism:

- University of the Republic, Faculty of Information and Communication (FIC), Assistant Professor (G 4). Coordinator of the FIC's Journalism Department for the Social Communications Degree. Courses taught: Journalism Workshop Seminar , Regulation and self- regulation of journalism. (2011 - 2014)
- Catholic University, Professor of Legal Framework for Communications in the Social Communications Degree. (2008 - 2013)
- Catholic University of Uruguay, professor of Written Journalism (2009 -2012).
- Invited by the Institute of Communication and Image of the University of Chile to lecture on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Chile and Latin America. (October 2012)
- Appointed as a Research Fellow of the National System of Researchers (SNI) of Uruguay, after a rigorous selection process open to applicants from different fields, based on their academic production in the area of social sciences related to freedom of information. (2013-2014).
- ORT University in Montevideo, Professor of Legal Framework of Communications, School of Communications (2001-2006).
- Professor and tutor of dissertations (Universidad ORT until 2006 , Catholic University of Uruguay , to date).

5. Participation in the passing of laws and significant appointments. I am part of various national bodies for monitoring and enforcement of public policies for media and right to information and have collaborated in drafting bills related to these rights (several of them approved by the Legislature).

- Appointed by the Executive Power of Uruguay as a member of the Jury of the 2013 Transparency Award, which rewards projects in public administration related to transparency and access to information. (November, 2013)
- Hired by the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador to develop a bill that guarantees the exercise of the Right of Correction and Response. (February, 2013)
- Member of the expert group convened by the Department of International Law of the OAS in the process of building the Template Inter-American Law on Access to Public Information. (http://www.oas.org/es/sla/ddi/acceso_informacion_ley_modelo_grupo_expertos.asp)

- Appointed by the Executive Power of Uruguay to integrate the Technical Advisory Committee that drafted the basis of the bill of Audiovisual Communication Services, recently approved by the House of Representatives. (2010 - 2013)
- Representative of the private universities in Uruguay on the Honorary Advisory Council of Community Broadcasting (Charc) . (2008 - 2014)
- Representative of civil society in the Advisory Council of the Access to Public Information Unit. (2009 - 2014)
- Representative of civil society in the Technical Advisory Committee which prepared the groundwork for a regulation on the Rights of Children and Adolescents , Freedom of Expression and Media . (2012)
- Member of the Working Group that developed an initiative to amend the offenses of contempt and slander in Uruguayan legislation. Passed by Parliament in July 2008.
- Co-editor of the draft law on access to information and information protection (passed in October 2009). Advocacy for the Law on Access to Public Information (No. 18,381) .

6. Participation in national and regional civil society. He held positions in various organizations of civil society in national and regional, linked to the defense of freedom of expression and right to information.

- Co -founder and President (2008-2013) of the Center for Archives and Access to Public Information (Cainfo), an NGO whose mission is to work for the fulfillment of the Right to Information in Uruguay. (2008-2009)
- Co -founder of the Media and Society Group (MSG). Working with civil society in order to investigate, monitor and propose initiatives on freedom of expression, pluralism and diversity in the media . (2008-2010)
- Member of the Committee on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in the Regional Alliance for Freedom of Expression and Information. (2010 to date)
- Member of the Working Group on Inter-American System of Human Rights and the OAS IFEX -ALC alliance in defense of freedom of expression. (2013 to date)

7. Publications. Author of several publications in the field of academic specialization, including the issues of freedom of expression and human rights:

Books

- "Criterios para armonizar la Libertad de expresión y los derechos de niños, niñas y adolescentes" (Criteria for harmonizing Freedom of expression and the rights of children and adolescents) , UNICEF, December 2012.

- "La libertad de prensa en la jurisprudencia uruguaya" (Freedom of the press in the Uruguayan case), published by Fundación de Cultura Universitaria (FCU) and Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Foundation, Montevideo, May 2004.
- "Tabaré Vázquez: misterios de un liderazgo que cambió la historia" (Vazquez : mysteries of leadership that changed history), co -author , Al Cierre Ediciones, December 2004 .

Chapters in books

- Freedom of expression and penal reform. Comments on the Law 18.515. Chapters: a) on the introduction of the Actual Malice doctrine in Uruguay, and b) Repeal of contempt for offenses. Fundación de Cultura Universitaria (2010)
- "Freedom of Expression and Government Advertising. Constructing a legal regulation to prevent the use of government advertising in Uruguay as indirect censorship." Document prepared by Grupo de Medios y Sociedad (GMS). (2008)

Academic research

- Diversity and programming on broadcast television in Uruguay. Frederich Ebert Foundation. (2013)
- Neither reward nor punishment. Investment, mechanisms and procedures for allocation of official advertising in Uruguay . Frederich Ebert Foundation. (2012)
- Private commercial television in Uruguay: characterization of the concentration of ownership, ratings and billing. Collection "Análisis y proupuestas," Fredrich Ebert Foundation. (2011)
- "Overcoming the Culture of Secrecy." Study of seven cases on the legal, institutional and cultural obstacles for the implementation of the Right of Access to Public Information in the region. Open Society Foundation and Centro de Archivos y Acceso a la Información Pública (Cainfo / Open Society Foundation). (2011)
- Comparative analysis of the Bolivian law against racism and all forms of discrimination against Bolivia and international standards of freedom of speech. Edison Lanza and Gustavo Gomez. Unesco. (2010)
- Local analysis of the rules and practice of Uruguay on Access to Public Information. Analyst. Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (2010)
- Active Transparency Index Online. "The Uruguayan government and the provision of public information through the Web," Fondo Regional para la Promoción de la Transparencia (Fontra), 2010.
- Guide for Journalists. Law on Access to Public Information, Centro de Archivos y Acceso a la Información Pública (Cainfo) and World Bank, 2008.

- The Price of Silence. Abuse of Official Advertising and other forms of Indirect Censorship in Latin America, (Uruguay chapter). Research on abuse of government advertising and other forms of indirect censorship in Uruguay. Posted by Open Society Institute and the Association for Civil Rights. Buenos Aires, Argentina, July 2008.

8. Work in media

Journalist and columnist in:

- Brecha, weekly, freelance journalist and columnist (March 2012 to date)
- Búsqueda, weekly (May 2000 to March 2012), editor of the General Interest section. Journalist of the politics section.
- El País Cultural (February 1998 to date), freelance journalist on current issues.
- TV Ciudad (cable channel of the Municipality of Montevideo, June 1998) , journalist and news program production .
- El Observador daily, journalist assigned to research and court reporter (1996-1998).
- Posdata magazine, assigned to investigations and court reporter (1995).
- La República daily, political section journalist (1993-1994).
- El Día daily, economy section journalist (1993) .

9. Consulting.

- Advice on the contents of the draft Law on Audiovisual Communication Services of Uruguay requested by the Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression of the UN, Frank La Rue. (2013)
- Hired by the World Bank to develop a mechanism to Assess the Access to Information Systems in the region. (2012)
- Comparative analysis of the Bolivian law against racism and all forms of discrimination and international standards of freedom of speech and press. Edison Lanza and Gustavo Gomez. Unesco. (2010)
- Consultancy report: "Compliance with Law 18.381 (Access to Information), by the Ministry of Social Development. Public and open tender ATN / JF - 11410 UR. August 2010 . Edison Lanza, Beatriz Muiño and Fabrizio Scrollini. (2009/2010)
- Member of the Commission created by the judiciary of Uruguay, for the Study of the Regulatory Framework of the Use of Sensitive Data in the judiciary. (2007-2008)
- Member of the working group convened by the World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters (AMARC) , which drafted the bill for the exercise of freedom of expression of community media. Passed into law by the Parliament of Uruguay. (2005 - 2007)