

Mexico City, May 7, 2024

World Press Freedom Day

May 3 marks the celebration of World Press Freedom Day, dedicated to the importance of journalism and freedom of expression in the context of the current global environmental crisis. Misinformation and erroneous data about climate change can, in some cases, promote doubt and skepticism about environmental issues, their impact, and the urgency to act, thereby weakening global efforts to address them.

The spread of incorrect information on environmental issues can result in a deficit of public and political support towards climate action, effective policies, and the defense of women, girls, and vulnerable communities who are disproportionately affected by climate change, as it exacerbates pre-existing inequities.

In this context, the role of journalists is essential. Thanks to their determination, courage, and tenacity, we are informed about what happens around the world. Their work goes beyond reporting facts; they delve into the causes and consequences of environmental challenges, providing a critical and educational perspective that is vital for public understanding and global action.

Another crucial aspect is the need to support independent, long-term investigative journalism, which is fundamental to uncover and understand the hidden dimensions of the climate crisis. This type of journalism requires significant resources, time, and often faces legal and political barriers that can discourage thorough exploration of complex issues. However, it is precisely this in-depth journalism that can provoke significant changes by exposing inconvenient truths and fostering transparency.

Moreover, recognizing and valuing local voices in the coverage of environmental issues is vital. These journalists often have a deeper understanding of the specific issues in their community and can offer perspectives that international media might overlook.

On this World Press Freedom Day, it is time to recognize and celebrate journalistic efforts, by promoting an environment where their work is possible, encouraged, and valued. Only then can we ensure that the free press continues to play its essential role in safeguarding our collective future and that of our planet, by elevating the stories that are often ignored but are essential to motivate change and foster environmental accountability.

ECIJA Mexico has been directly involved in the Escazú Agreement and Principle 10 of the Rio Declaration, seeking equitable access to environmental information. Our firm has dedicated itself to assisting businesses, communities, and non-governmental organizations in understanding and exercising the right to environmental information. We firmly believe that press freedom on environmental issues is fundamental to the exercise of this right and also acts as an essential pillar for transparency in environmental management. Faced with such challenges, ECIJA Mexico addresses and continues to offer legal solutions through its Sustainability and Environment Area, promoting a fairer and healthier environment, which allows everyone the freedom to develop.



From ECIJA Mexico, we commemorate this date and, through our sustainability practice, support our clients and the community to contribute to press freedom and environmental care.

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