



UvA-DARE (Digital Academic Repository)

Minority rights and freedom of expression: a dynamic interface

McGonagle, T.E.

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

McGonagle, T. E. (2008). *Minority rights and freedom of expression: a dynamic interface*.

General rights

It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations

If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: <https://uba.uva.nl/en/contact>, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.

Acknowledgements

I would like, first of all, to thank Egbert Dommering and Nico van Eijk for their input into this thesis in their capacities as promoter and supervisor, respectively. Geoff Gilbert accepted the invitation to come on board as co-promoter at the outset and I am very grateful for the keen interest he has taken in the project from start to finish, as well as for the very helpful comments and encouragement he has given me throughout.

Secondly, I would like to thank the Committee members, Yvonne Donders, Aernout Nieuwenhuis, Patrick Thornberry and Dirk Voorhoof, for their insightful remarks which have helped to enhance the quality of this thesis.

My colleagues at IViR have shown me support in many ways over the past years, for which I am also very grateful. The support has come from all quarters and in many shapes and forms – far too many to itemise here – so I hope no one will feel in any way slighted if I simply thank all my colleagues, past and present, collectively for their individual support, especially over the past few months.

My thanks are also due to my *paranimfen*, Wouter Gekiere and Róna McGonagle, for their willingness to prop me up on 7 October. I am grateful to the Deans of Ph.D. Research at the Law Faculty, Annette Schrauwen and Janne Nijman, for their willingness to make themselves available, invariably at very short notice, to discuss relevant matters. I am also grateful to Helene Boeren of the UvA Doctorate Board for her helpfulness with relevant administrative matters and to the staff of the UvA Pedel Office for their understanding of difficult circumstances when I was due to submit my thesis.

Support, encouragement and – the lifeblood of any thesis – information and insights, have been forthcoming from many sources unconnected with my thesis or IViR. Tom Moring and Donncha O’Connell deserve special mention for generously dispensing wisdom and humour and for always leading by example. Kevin Boyle, Yvonne Donders, David Goldberg, Susanne Nikoltchev, Wilfred Steenbruggen and Dirk Voorhoof have also been invaluable sources of advice, encouragement and information.

I have been helped enormously by very obliging staff in a number of libraries, in particular, Rosanne van der Waal, Henja Korsten, William McKinney and Elvira Caneda Cabrera, but also more generally the staff in my various research hang-outs within the University of Amsterdam: AJB; Bungehuis; Bushuis; UB; Wijsbegeerte.

I am also indebted to a large number of colleagues for generously sharing their knowledge and passing on references and elusive documents: Wouter Gekiere, Karol Jakubowicz, Ilze Brands Kehris, Toby Mendel, Mario Oetheimer, Andrei Richter, Helena Sousa, the Secretariat of the Council of Europe’s Media & Information Society Division, the Press Office of the European Court of Human Rights.

Since I started my thesis, many individuals and organisations have provided me with valuable fora in which to develop and present my ideas, orally and in writing, including: Michael Hertz, Sally Holt, Antti Korkeakivi, Heike Klempa, Eva Konecna, Danilo Leonardi, Stéphanie Marsal, Christian Möller, Peter Molnar, John Packer, Milica Pesic, Monroe Price, Mary Ruddy, Damian Tambini, Krzysztof Zyman and the organisations to which they are affiliated,

as well as the European Audiovisual Observatory and KATTI, Faculty of Law, University of Helsinki. I would like to acknowledge my gratitude to all of them.

I would like to thank my parents and Conall and Riona and the rest of my family for being there for me throughout the thesis-period, as they always are. Thanks also to those friends who never let tedious thesis-talk spoil our relationships and maintained a healthy interest in the project right to the end: Vinny Connolly, Victor Guevara, Cliona Hartigan, Karen Lim, Laurence O'Brien and Seána Ryan. I would like to thank my in-laws for their support, especially Ingeborg van der Waal who has perfected the art of the timely text message and Peter Boswijk who has perfected the art of the knowing nod.

I cannot even begin to express my gratitude to Rosanne, who has been with me every step of the way on this Ph.D. journey. She has believed in me even after that belief had deserted me. Beidh sé ina shamhradh uaidh seo amach, le cúnamh Dé.

Ar deireadh, ba mhaith liom an tráchtas seo a thíolacadh do mo thuismitheoirí, ceannródaithe beirt, a shiúil an bóthar romham, a chas timpeall agus a shiúil an bóthar liom.