

Freedom of Information of Central and Eastern European Countries.

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The term "freedom of information" can be defined in several ways. In the broader sense, it encompasses the general principle that everyone has the right to be informed. In the first part, the study will focus on the meaning of the freedom of information and its close ties with transparency, while in the second, it will analyze the freedom of information as part of the Basic Human Rights. In a democratic country, where policies are always implemented to the individual's or society's benefit, freedom of information will always thrive, because the government has to provide the means for the distribution of this information. Freedom of information includes the right of citizens to access documentation regarding the decisions of the Public Administration. This is a recognized essential right and is covered by constitutional and international rights. The study will reflect the state of freedom of information with respect to the legislations of Central and Eastern European countries, such as Bulgaria, Albania, Estonia, Moldova, etc. A crucial point of the study consists of the legal implementations in the abovementioned countries, which imply the approval of a specific law to protect freedom of information. The adoption of FOIA will be part of the discussion, due to its importance particularly in countries undergoing transition to democracy. These countries are looking towards the europeanization of their democracy, which cannot be achieved without acknowledging and respecting their own citizens' rights.