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The control of online communication: a threat to media pluralism, freedom of information and human dignity

Amendment¹ No. 3

In the draft resolution, at the end of paragraph 12, insert the following sentences:

"The right balance is enhanced by adherence to the professional rules and ethics of the journalist, who with cross-checking subjects the sources to scrutiny. This was scrupulously respected by Assange and member States must act in line with Resolution 2300 (2019) "Improving the protection of whistle-blowers all over Europe". Each member State must recognise, and ensure respect of, the right of journalists to protect their sources, and develop an appropriate normative, judicial and institutional framework to protect whistleblowers and whistleblowing facilitators. It is unfair that this right was not taken into account in the extradition judgment brought against him. In accordance with Resolution 2317 (2020) "Threats to media freedom and journalists' security in Europe", the detention and criminal prosecution of Mr Julian Assange constitute a dangerous precedent for journalists. As the UN Special Rapporteur on Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment declared on 1 November 2019, Mr Assange's extradition to the United States must be barred and he must be promptly released."

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