



For immediate release – 7 October 2009

PRESS RELEASE

Council of Europe: ARTICLE 19 Petitions Secretary General to Review Anti-Terrorism Legislation

In an open letter submitted to the incoming Secretary General for the Council of Europe, Thorbørn Jagland, today, ARTICLE 19 joins more than 40 civil society organisations and individuals in offering their expertise to help define the benchmarks for a review of anti-terrorism legislation and practice, and its impact on the right to freedom of expression and information.

In May 2009, the first Council of Europe Conference of Ministers resolved to conduct regular reviews of national anti-terrorism legislation and practice among member states. This would evaluate whether such legislation and practice had any negative impact on the rights to freedom of expression and information, as enshrined in the European Convention on Human Rights.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

- For more information please contact: Barbora Bukovska, Senior Director: Law at barbora@article19.org, or +44 20 7324 2500.
- To read the open letter submitted to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, go to: <http://www.article19.org/pdfs/letters/council-of-europe-open-letter-to-secretary-general-thorborn-jagland.pdf>
- ARTICLE 19 is an independent human rights organisation that works around the world to protect and promote the right to freedom of expression. It takes its name from Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which guarantees free speech.