

UK's "Online Safety Act" Officially Grants Mainstream Media Permission to Publish Lies

By [OffGuardian](#)

Global Research, February 05, 2024

[OffGuardian](#) 2 February 2024

Region: [Europe](#)

Theme: [Law and Justice](#), [Media Disinformation](#)

All Global Research articles can be read in 51 languages by activating the Translate Website button below the author's name (only available in desktop version).

To receive Global Research's Daily Newsletter (selected articles), [click here](#).

Click the share button above to email/forward this article to your friends and colleagues. Follow us on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) and subscribe to our [Telegram Channel](#). Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

[Donation Drive: Global Research Is Committed to the "Unspoken Truth"](#)

Welcome to the UK where it's now [official government policy](#) that you CAN'T publish "misinformation", but The Guardian, the BBC, Disney and Netflix CAN.

Yes, it's true - the recently signed "Online Safety Act" brands the publication of "false information" a criminal offense punishable by up to a year in prison...

...unless you're an MSM outlet, when it's **totally fine**.

Think even the corrupt & bloated criminal class that rules over us would never dare be that blatant?

Take a look at section 179 making it **illegal to publish false information with intent to cause harm**:

PART 10

COMMUNICATIONS OFFENCES

False and threatening communications offences

179 False communications offence

(1) A person commits an offence if—

- (a) the person sends a message (see section 182),
- (b) the message conveys information that the person knows to be false,
- (c) at the time of sending it, the person intended the message, or the information in it, to cause non-trivial psychological or physical harm to a likely audience, and
- (d) the person has no reasonable excuse for sending the message.

...and then look at section 180, **which exempts all MSM outlets from this new law:**

180 Exemptions from offence under section 179

- (1) A recognised news publisher cannot commit an offence under section 179.
- (2) An offence under section 179 cannot be committed by the holder of a licence under the Broadcasting Act 1990 or 1996 in connection with anything done under the authority of the licence.
- (3) An offence under section 179 cannot be committed by the holder of a multiplex licence in connection with anything done under the authority of the licence.
- (4) An offence under section 179 cannot be committed by the provider of an on-demand programme service in connection with anything done in the course of providing such a service.

...and that's without even getting into OfCom's "select committee", or how they choose to define "misinformation" ([s. 152](#))

Welcome to the modern definition of "freedom of speech", where the MSM are directly and explicitly permitted to "*knowingly publish false information with intent to cause non-trivial harm*", and you can be sent to jail for a year for calling out their lies.

Oh, and it looks like our friends across the pond might not be far behind. The Big Tech Senate hearings started yesterday, and social media executives are already throwing their support behind the [new "Kids Online Safety Act"](#).

With the EU's own Digital Services Act coming into force later this month, and all the focus on "misinformation and disinformation" at Davos two weeks ago, we can see the real crackdown on internet free speech is about to kick into gear.

Good times.

*

Note to readers: Please click the share button above. Follow us on Instagram and Twitter and subscribe to our Telegram Channel. Feel free to repost and share widely Global Research articles.

Featured image is from OffGuardian

The original source of this article is [OffGuardian](#)

Copyright © [OffGuardian](#), [OffGuardian](#), 2024

[Comment on Global Research Articles on our Facebook page](#)

[Become a Member of Global Research](#)

Articles by: **OffGuardian**

Disclaimer: The contents of this article are of sole responsibility of the author(s). The Centre for Research on Globalization will not be responsible for any inaccurate or incorrect statement in this article. The Centre of Research on Globalization grants permission to cross-post Global Research articles on community internet sites as long the source and copyright are acknowledged together with a hyperlink to the original Global Research article. For publication of Global Research articles in print or other forms including commercial internet sites, contact: publications@globalresearch.ca
www.globalresearch.ca contains copyrighted material the use of which has not always been specifically authorized by the copyright owner. We are making such material available to our readers under the provisions of "fair use" in an effort to advance a better understanding of political, economic and social issues. The material on this site is distributed without profit to those who have expressed a prior interest in receiving it for research and educational purposes. If you wish to use copyrighted material for purposes other than "fair use" you must request permission from the copyright owner.

For media inquiries: publications@globalresearch.ca