

We are told that at the heart of the Scheme of Recognition is the requirement that regulators can only gain recognition if they meet all the criteria of the Charter. Sadly but predictably, the corporate national press is trying its utmost to wriggle around meaningful and binding legislation. Having learned nothing from the mistakes of the past, and in the absence of adequate regulation, its behaviour is liable to only get worse. Society as a whole has shown it is no longer prepared to tolerate this.

Abundant evidence shows that the Sun, Mail, Mirror, Express, Times and Telegraph papers are not remotely sorry for the outrages that led to the Leveson Inquiry and have taken no meaningful steps to ensure they will not be repeated. On the contrary, they apparently believe they must be free to behave just as they did before, abusing, bullying etc. and then covering up for one another.

Regulators applying for recognition need to meet all the 28 specific criteria, and with regard to these, Hacked Off have prepared an excellent submission with the input of victims of press abuse.

I urge you to take note of this submission and act upon its recommendations.

Yours sincerely

Richard Hawkins