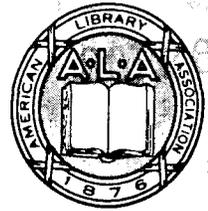


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# AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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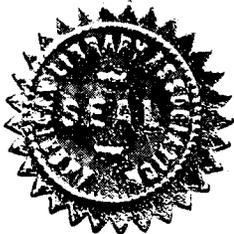
REVISION OF THE POLICY ON ABRIDGMENT OF  
THE RIGHTS OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION OF  
FOREIGN NATIONALS

(Note: New language is underscored; language to be deleted is bracketed.)

Freedom of thought and freedom of expression are rights basic to all. This concept is now expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which was adopted and proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations. Article 19 of this Declaration reads as follows: "Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas through any media regardless of frontiers."

Aware that this priceless right is still being threatened, the Association affirms its stance that threats to freedom of expression of any person become threats to the freedom of all and therefore adopts as its policy of governance the principle of Article 19 of the Universal Declaration. The Association, through the ALA International Relations Committee with the support of the ALA Executive Director's Office, will address the grievances of foreign nationals where the infringement of their rights of free expression is clearly a matter in which all free people should show concern. Resolutions or other documents attesting to such grievances will be brought to the attention of the Executive Board and Council by [both of] the [Council's committees involved in the area: Intellectual Freedom Committee and] ALA International Relations Committee.

Upon adoption, the resolution will be sent to the U.S. Department of State, the United Nations, international library associations, the national library association or associations of the nation involved, the nation's embassy, and such other bodies as may be deemed appropriate by the resolution's drafters.



REVISION ADOPTED BY THE  
COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION  
July 1, 1987, in San Francisco, California  
Transmitted by

*Thomas J. Galvin*  
Thomas J. Galvin  
Secretary of Council

*Council adopted 7/11/81*

1986-87  
CD # 54

The ALA International Relations Committee (IRC) requests the ALA Council to revise the Policy on Abridgment of the Rights of Freedom of Expression of Foreign Nationals. Deleted text is bracketed and inserted text is underlined, as shown below. For background information, refer to ALA COUNCIL MINUTES, VOLUME 27, pp. 124-25, 294-95.

POLICY ON ABRIDGMENT OF THE RIGHTS OF FREEDOM OF  
EXPRESSION OF FOREIGN NATIONALS

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Adopted by the ALA Council  
July 12, 1974

The revision of this policy is endorsed by the ALA Intellectual Freedom Committee, the International Relations Round Table, SRRT International Human Rights Task Force,