Petition at the initiative of journalists participating to PrepCom1
Of the World Summit on the Information Society
Geneva, July 1-5 2002

Tunisia was chosen to organize the World Summit on the Information Society together with Geneva. Yet that country is categorized by the journalism profession and by Human Rights organizations as an enemey of Freedom of the press.

It is therefore astonishing that this choice was not made conditional on a better respect for fundamental Freedoms, notably the rights to inform and to be informed.

Consequently, we make an urgent request to the ITU and the UN to demand of Tunis that it gives tangible and speedy demonstrations of a real determination to improve the situation.

Failing that, we request that the international community seriously consider the transfer of the Summit to a capital where Freedom of expression is better respected.

First signatories:

Michel Bührer - Journaliste
Ronald Koven - European Representative, World Press Freedom Committee (WPFC)
Roman Berger - Tags Anzeiger, Zürich
Fabrice Boulé - Journaliste InfoSud, Lausanne
George Gordon-Lennox - Reporters sans frontières, Suisse
Andres Garcia Lavin - Vice-Président, World Press Freedom Committe (WPFC)
Hector Amugual - Directeur général, International Association of Broadcasting (IAB)
Andres Garcia Gamboa - 1er Vice-Président, Inter American Press Association (IAPA)
Association of European Radios
Salvador Association of Broadcasters (ASDER)
Emilio Nassar - Camara National de la Industria de Radio y TV de Mexico
Carole Vam – Journaliste, InfoSud - Lausanne
Eric Johnson – Director, Internews Europe
Stéphane Koch – Président, Internet Society Geneva
Meryem Marzouki, Presidente, Imaginons un réseau Internet solidaire (IRIS), France
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
Michael Anthony – World Organization Against Torture (WOAT/OMCT)
Lisa Koonts – Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility (CPSR)
Cees Hamelink – People’s Communication Charter, The Netherlands
Susanna George – ISIS International, Manila
Steve Buckler – World Association of Community Radio Broadcasting
Robert Guerra – Director, Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility (CPSR)
Guillaume Chenevière – Conseil Mondial de la Radio-Télévision (CMRTV)
Alain Ambrozi – Carrefour Mondial de l’Internet Citoyen