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FXI CELEBRATES THE AFFIRMATION OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION BY THE HIGH COURT

The Freedom of Expression Institute congratulates the Righ2Know Campaign for taking a bold stance against what is evidently a classic case of abuse of power and disregard for the right to protest by the Tshwane Metro Police Department.

The FXI wishes to express concern that the attitude displayed by the TMPD is becoming a common trend throughout the vast majority of municipalities in the country. Most organisations representing poor and marginalised communities are constantly at the receiving end of authorities' arbitrary actions of this kind owing to the inability to secure legal representation in order to challenge such acts of censorship.

We hope that the R2K victory will serve as a deterrent against further un-procedural prohibition of protests by those charged with the responsibility to facilitating the exercise of the right.

The right to protest is one of the cornerstones of a democratic society and it must be equally upheld as other constitutionally guaranteed rights.

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