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PRESS RELEASE

GLOOMY DISCLOSURES OF CORRUPTION AND MALFEASANCE: A REINFORCEMENT OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND ACCESS TO INFORMATION

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The Freedom of Expression Institute (FXI) today expressed its quiet celebration amidst the slew of almost daily revelations from Commissions of Inquiry and press reports about public and private institutional corruption and malfeasance.

“There is a brighter side to it all, seldom have citizens of a country experienced such a striking example of the power of freedom of expression and its influence on the gathering and making public of vital information. It brings home to all the necessity of ensuring that there is maximum transparency in government and the conduct of affairs to prevent crime and corruption from taking over their lives”, said FXI’s Rea Simigiannis.

“Our organisation and others who campaigned long and hard for freedom of expression and the freedoms associated with that core value of democracy take heart from the fact that South Africans would possibly still be ignorant of the true size and scale of recent revelations had pressure not resulted in respect for these freedoms,” added Simigiannis.

“South Africans must remain vigilant, so these freedoms continue to enjoy prominence and protection,” concluded Simigiannis.

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