

INTERNATIONAL TRANS-DISCIPLINARY WORKSHOP

The Right of Access to Information & the Right to Privacy: A Democratic Balancing Act

December 13, 2016

Södertörn högskola Stockholm/Huddinge

The Swedish principle of Publicity, which includes the right of Access to official documents, turns 250 years this year. We aim to highlight this event by organising an international workshop on issues related to the relationship between the concepts that underpin the Right of Access to Information, the Right to Privacy, and Democratic Freedom.

It is assumed that the right of access to information and the right to privacy are necessary preconditions for a democratic society. How should we examine these assumptions? How do we assess the balance between these two interests when they are in conflict with each other?

We welcome scholars from a broad range of disciplines such as history, law, journalism, political and archival science etc. from Sweden and abroad, to give their perspectives on these issues.

The thematic approach of the workshop will be organised into various sub themes such as:

- The values of the right of access to information, and the right to privacy respectively.
- The balancing between the right of access/right to privacy from the perspective of e.g. history, law, political or archival science, the media, and so on.
- The impact of technological development on right of access/right to privacy.
- The impact of European law (e.g. Data Protection Regulation or the European Convention on Human Rights) on the right of access/right to privacy.
- The challenge for public servants, as actors conducting the balancing act, while being privacy subjects at the same time.

Through its international and trans-disciplinary dimensions, the objective of the workshop is to broaden our understanding of various national and disciplinary approaches to the issues of access and privacy.

In order to plan the workshop further we would like you to give us an answer about your possible participation before **October 17th**, with an indication of the issue you would like to tackle. Coffee, lunch and dinner will be provided on the day of the workshop.

We look very much forward to welcoming you to Stockholm/Huddinge.

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Preliminary schedule

- 10-11 Registration and coffee
- 11.00 Opening speech and session
- Lunch
- Sessions and coffee
- Dinner