

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

APPLICATION OF THE FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AND THE JOURNALISTIC CODE OF ETHICS

Suprapti Indah Putri¹

¹) Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Komunikasi “Pembangunan”

e-Mail: putri.bakri481@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Media has always deliver the news to criticize harshly various government policies, thereby, it's no wonder the reporters are often subjected to the action of a reign of terror from people who felt disadvantaged over the released news. This research aims to examine the application of the freedom of the press and the journalistic code of ethics and to study the attitude of WASPADA Online journalist regarding the applied free press and the journalistic code of ethics. In this study, I used a communication theory S-O-R model; Stimulus-Organism-Response, and also adopted the social responsibility theory and individual differences theory as its supporting theory. The researcher used the descriptive method and use the purposive sampling, whereby the researcher distributes questionnaires to 8 WASPADA Online reporters who have 2 years experiences. Based on the results, the WASPADA Online reporters argued that press freedom is a freedom that ensures journalists to express their opinion, facts, and to ensure the safety of the journalists while performing their coverage. Majority of the journalists agree with the existence of freedom of the press, but they still hold on to the Journalistic Code of Ethics, which will be their guide to be a professional journalist.

Keywords: Press, Code Of Ethics, Journalist, Media.

1. INTRODUCTION

After the expiration of “Orde Baru” which fetter freedom of the press for the past 32 years, the reformation of the press is in a period of euphoria because of information disclosure. The reform era confers enormous freedom against the media, as stated in Act No. 40 - 1999 about the press, article 4 concerning the independence of the press. Even in the Constitution of 1945 mentioned that everyone has the right to communicate and gain information.

The Rise of press industry phenomenon, as consequence of the process of industrialization in mass media, makes the mass media have two faces, as the business industry and social institution. Both of the implications have their own orientations. As a business institution,

media orientation is on inward looking for his own interests, and as a social institution oriented to the outward looking for the benefit of the community.

This conflict of orientation implicate to the performance of the journalist (journalist). The reporters are required to generate information to grab business orientation, and on the other hand, they want to run their social functions as one of their responsibility. So the media and journalists are in between two worlds, as workers in the context of the business institution or as perpetrators of the profession who run social functions. (Anto, 2005).

Basically a code of conduct aimed at safeguarding the dignity of a profession and, on the other hand to protect the public from the abuse of authority or expertise of the profession (Sukardi, 2007). Conrad C.

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

Fink describes the ethics as a principle of morality or the ethics of the profession with the reserved value that develop in culture and society. So, the journalistic code of ethics play a very important role in maintaining the independence of the press.

According to Mr Alwi Dahlan, a code of conduct at least five benefits, such as:

- a) To protect professionals workers in their field.
- b) To protect the public from bad practice by unprofessional practitioners.
- c) To encourage healthy competition between practitioners.
- d) To prevent cheating between colleagues.
- e) To prevent information manipulation by the interviewees. (Dahlan, 2005)

To examine and evaluate the quality work of journalism, the Press Council refers to the 11 articles of the journalistic code of ethics and its interpretation as a means of analysis of the ethical violations that occur, namely:

1. Indonesian journalists are independent, produce news that is accurate, balanced and not in bad faith.
2. Indonesian journalists pursue professional methods of carrying out journalistic duties.
3. Indonesian journalists always examine information, report in a balanced manner, not mix judgmental facts and opinions and apply the principle of presumption of innocence.
4. Indonesian journalists make no false, slanderous, sadistic and obscene news
5. Do not mention the identity of children who are victims of the crime of adultery and did not mention the identity of

children who become perpetrators of evil.

6. Indonesian journalists do not abuse the profession and do not accept bribes.
7. Have the right to objected to protect a resource who is not willing to note its existence or identity, respect the provisions of the embargo, background information and off the record in accordance with the agreement.
8. Indonesian journalists do not write or broadcast news based on prejudice or discrimination against someone on the basis of ethnic, racial, skin color, religious, gender, and language differences and do not demean the weak, poor, sick, mentally/physically handicapped.
9. Respect interviewees about his personal life except for the public interest.
10. Immediately revoke, revise and correct the erroneous news and inaccurate accompanied by an apology to readers, listeners or viewers.
11. Serve the right answer and the right correction proportionally.

Based on the provisions of the code of ethics, the Press Council identified errors or violations of the code of conduct that occurred, by assessing the spread of information, how to itikat faktualitasnya, the truth of the information and the propriety of the way his delivery (not prejudiced, not discriminatory, not judging, not libelous, not degrading the dignity and respect of privacy), as well as a willingness to revise, refine, or apologize for the misinformation, as well as serve the right answer and the right of correction (Press Council, 2008).

In the current era of information disclosure at this time, cyber/online media is very popular, because it is very easily accessible both through mobile phones, lap

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

top computers, and the latest equipment that is now very popular as iPad. So, whenever and wherever we easily obtain up to date information. The community is now more glad to see news coverage up to date especially for sports fans, who want to know the results of the match. When compared to the new review paper about the results of the match the next day, online media can directly publish the news just seconds after the game ended.

One of the media that is up to date in the North Sumatra Province is WASPADA Online. Daily, WASPADA Online publishes dozens of news with a scale of 1 news every 10-15 minutes. In addition, the site has a high readership and do not only come from North Sumatra, but also throughout Indonesia to neighboring countries such as Singapore and Malaysia, even the United States, it's no wonder in one day WASPADA Online can be penetrate lift over 1 million hits in a month. WASPADA Online also have 3 platform of social media, instagram, facebook and twitter.

There are interesting cases reported by WASPADA Online, that is when his vigorous preaching corruption case involving the Governor of North Sumatra, Gatot Pujo Nugroho. Corruption is also dragging the element from the Member of the Parliament of North Sumatra. In addition it appears surprising facts that the Governor has a second wife. Before these facts clearly revealed to the public, wary of Online a few times to preach about corruption and the Governor of North Sumatra's second marriage, but a lot of netizen who don't believe until this fact was revealed and Gatot admitted it such. He was arrested along with his second wife turned out to join the erlibat in the case of corruption, bribe the North Sumatra Regional Budgets.

Another case that drew the attention of the public is the moment of the elections

which took place in North Sumatra in late June 2018. The two candidates the Governor and Deputy Governor, Edy Rahmayadi-Musa Rajekshah and Djarot Syaiful Hidayat-Sihar Sitorus. WASPADA Online was affected by the news published by to Waspada Daily that was very exposed leaning on one of the pair, Edy-Ijeck. Meanwhile, the news coverage regarding their opponent was always negative dan less. In this case the WASPADA ONLINE trying to put forward the principle of Journalistic code of ethics, the origin of 1 which reads "Indonesia Journalists behave Independently, producing accurate news, balanced, and not beritikat bad" where indeed might initially look tendensius related corruption case gubsu, namuan ini time after much evidence and acknowledged the reader finally opened my eyes about this case

Related to the Journalistic code of ethics, article 6 which reads "Indonesia Journalists not to abuse the profession and did not receive bribes", the editor of Online ALERT enacting regulations which States that journalists are prohibited from accepting Online ALERT Rewards while doing the coverage, if this is violated then the journalists concerned will be prosecuted ranging from reprimand to dismissal hard.

In its action, WASPADA Online also have experienced a variety of other collisions, such as the bribery trial against editorial from the parties concerned regarding the proclamation of the WASPADA Online sharp and tend to peel the negative side. Not only bribery, some journalists also experienced terror actions from the parties unhappy over their news coverage. For example, the proclamation of the wild collection cases in the civil registry, which makes journalists and Editorial Leader WASPADA Online terrorized after loading of the news. Then the party tried to bribe so that negative news coverage wasn't published again. But this

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

case was closed, without any complaint to the Press Council regarding lack of evidence. However, various obstacles didn't turn WASPADA Online to keep presenting news that is accurate and up-to-date.

2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Data analysis in this study uses qualitative approach method, in which to answer regarding the application of the freedom of the press and the journalistic code of ethics on the portal WASPADA online researchers interview against 4 people as a journalist the informant. Meanwhile, to answer about the attitude of journalists WASPADA online against the application of the freedom of the press and the journalistic code of ethics, researchers deploy questionnaire with a combination of closed and open answers on 8 journalist WASPADA online. This questionnaire asks about the three components that make up the structure of attitudes, cognitive component i.e., affective, and konatif as described previously in chapter III.

This researches respondents of WASPADA Online are:

- 1) Austin Tumengkol, Chief Editor, became a journalist since 2005 (member of PWI)
- 2) Muhammad Agus Utama, Managing Editor, became a journalist since 2005 (member of PWI)
- 3) Ridin, Chief Reporter, became a journalist since 1997 (member of PWI)
- 4) Sastrody Bangun, Editor, became a journalist since 2004 (not member of PWI)
- 5) Muhammad Rizky, Reporter, became a journalist since 2012 (member of PWI)

- 6) Eko Kurniawan, Reporter, became a journalist since 2014 (member of PWI)
- 7) Lihavez Suprima Aidi, Reporter, became a journalist since 2014 (member of PWI)
- 8) Arianda Tanjung, Reporter, became a journalist since 2009 (member of PWI)

7 out of 8 respondents above are member of the Indonesian Journalists Association (PWI). One of the conditions becoming member of the PWI is the competency test including evaluating knowledge regarding freedom of the press and the journalistic code of ethics. However, it does not mean the other respondent doesn't understand the freedom of the press and the journalistic code of ethics. Thus, the respondent are obliged to practice the Journalistic code of ethics in the field covering the news. To be more clear about the attitude of journalists WASPADA online against the application of the freedom of the press and the journalistic code of ethics, researchers break it in the results of a questionnaire and interviews, as follows:

a). WASPADA *Online* Journalists Attitude regarding freedom of the press

The following are the answers from the questionnaires concerning the freedom of the press against 8 persons the journalist WASPADA online. The list of questions drawn up on the basis of CHAPTER II (article 2 and article 6), the press LAW Number 40 of the year 1999, on principle, functions, rights, obligations and the role of the press.

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

Tabel 1. WASPADA Online Journalists Attitude regarding freedom of the press

Art	Content	Opinion	Results (Skala Likert)
2	Press freedom is one form of popular sovereignty that berasaskan the principles of democracy, justice, and the rule of law	Really Agree: 6 Agree: 2 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	95 % (very strong)
3	(1). National press functions as a medium of information, education, entertainment, and social control	Really Agree: 6 Agree: 2 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	95 % (very strong)
3	(2). Besides the functions of subsection (1), national press can serve as economic institutions	Really Agree: 1 Agree: 4 doubtful: 3 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	75 % (strong)
4	(1). Freedom of the press is guaranteed as rights of citizens	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (very strong)
4	(2). Against the national press is not subject to censorship, pembredelan or the prohibition of broadcasting.	Really Agree: 3 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 1 Really Disagree: 0	82,5 % (very strong)
4	(3). To guarantee the independence of the press, the national press has the right look for, acquire, and disseminate ideas and information	Really Agree: 7 Agree: 1 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	97,5 % (very strong)
4	(4). In news coverage in front of the law, journalists have the right Reject	Really Agree: 6 Agree: 1 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 1 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (very strong)
5	(1). The national press is obliged to proclaim the events and opinions with respect religious norms and a sense of community as well as kesuliaan the principle of presumption of innocence	Really Agree: 6 Agree: 1 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 1 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (very strong)
5	(2). The press is obliged to serve the right Answer	Really Agree: 7 Agree: 1 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	97,5 % (very strong)
5	(3). The press is obliged to serve the right of Correction	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4	90 % (very strong)

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

		doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	
6	National press carry out its role as follows: (a) meet the community rights to know	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (very strong)
6	(b). Uphold the basic values of democracy, encourage the realization of rule of law, and human rights, as well as respect for promoting diversity	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (very strong)
6	(c). Develop public opinion based on the right and truth information	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	97,5 % (very strong)
6	(d). To conduct surveillance, criticisms, corrections, and suggestions towards matters relating to the public interest	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (very strong)
6	(e). Fight for justice and truth	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (very strong)

From the table above it can be concluded, then, that WASPADA Online journalists agree with 15 rounds in the Press ACT, which describes the basic, functions, rights, obligations and the role of the press. They highlighted the article 3, paragraph 2 which says "in addition to the functions the aforementioned paragraph (1), national press can serve as economic institutions ". Where the results of the questionnaire stated 3 of 8 respondents less agreed when the press media in this case serves as an economic institution, likert scale with the results of 75 percent which means that there is a strong link between this chapter with the attitude of journalists WASPADA online, or WASPADA Online journalists agree if a media can function economically. Respondents who answered less agree

worrying economic oriented towards the media forget about the nature of the media itself that was supposed to be a media fight for truth and justice for the benefit of the people. Because as is currently the case, much of the media that have been collaborating with certain parties as the parties have put advertisements in the media, are bound not to contain any negative news about his client. Unfortunately, however, the media are reluctant to apply the principle difficulty even to survive, until it finally filed for bankruptcy.

On article 4, paragraph 2 which reads "against the national press is not subject to censorship, pemberedelan or breach of broadcasting". The results of the questionnaire stated 3 people responded

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

very much agree, 4 people answered agree and 1 person answer did not agree. So the results of scale likertnya 82.5 percent, then it can be interpreted that there is a very strong relationship between this chapter with an attitude of WASPADA Online journalists majority agreed with the statement if the national press is not subject to censorship, pemberedelan or breach of broadcasting. The respondent replied that it should be censored and not every media were banned, because freedom of speech is a basic human right, especially the press/media are obligated to voice the aspirations of the people and this is the real manifestation of the freedom of the press it on its own. While a respondent who answers disagree, fearing if too sharply criticizing the media that tends to memblow-up, often forgotten Journalistic code of ethics. Especially if the issue or news related to famous people or top political figures, such as a Minister or party leader associated large corruption cases.

Article 4, paragraph 4 of which reads "in mempertanggung-jawabkan news coverage in front of the law, journalists have the right reject". The results of the questionnaire stated 6 respondents answered agree, 1 person 2 people agree and answer the answer did not agree. So the results of scale likertnya 90 percent, then it can be interpreted that there is a very strong relationship between this chapter with an attitude of WASPADA Online journalists agree in mempertanggung-jawabkan his announcement in front of the law, journalists have the right. Respondents answered this starting right if necessary to protect when narasumbernya. In placing coverage journalists will find a speaker who reluctantly disclosed his identity because it will affect the salvation of speaker and his family, so that the media is obligated to protect him. However, one respondent did not agree with this because the press has the

right answer, it is related to article 5 of LAW Number 40 of the year 1999 about the press.

Article 5, paragraph 2 which reads "mandatory Press serves the Right Answer" the results of the questionnaire stated 7 people respondents answered agree and one person replied in agreement. So the results of the likertnya scale of 97.5 percent, it can be interpreted that there is a very strong relationship between this chapter with an attitude of WASPADA Online journalists agree with mandatory press statement serve the right answer. The respondent argues the media obliged to serve the right answer from the news sources. This is related to the journalistic principle that requires the published news must "cover both side" or balanced and not one-sided. Sometimes because of the proximity of the owners of the media or journalists itself with certain sources make it contains news that is not balanced, because prefer the source that has a close relationship with them. As a result, resources become less oposisinya to the right answer.

Article 6, which reads "carry out his role as the national press here, paragraph 4 of which reads" to conduct surveillance, criticisms, corrections and suggestions towards matters relating to the public interest ". The results of the questionnaire stated 4 respondents answered agree and 4 people replied in agreement. So the results of scale likertnya of 90 percent, then it can be interpreted that there is a very strong relationship between this chapter with an attitude of WASPADA Online journalists agrees with the national press to conduct surveillance, criticisms, corrections and suggestions towards matters relating to the public interest. Respondents said supervision, criticisms, corrections and suggestions towards things that are related to the public interest is very important. As

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

the preaching about the Government's plans to raise the price of fuel type premium amounting to Rp 1,500 per liter to Rp 6,000 per liter at the beginning of april 2012. Various media aired on community complaints and action demonstration that resists a premium price in various areas. Media as funnel voice of the people, should scrutinise the discourse of this Government, because it could impact badly on the economy, ranging from rising transport costs up to the rising prices of basic necessities.

WASPADA Online is one of the media that repeatedly preached about the impact of rising prices of premium by quoting revelation-revelation of various economic experts and community leaders either pro or con with this Government's decision. But, WASPADA Online also kept

preaching opinion of the State Government about the increase in premium should be put in place so that the income and Expenditure Budget of the State (BUDGET) deficit not 2012.

This is one form of accountability WASPADA Online journalist terhadap social community, particularly people of North Sumatra as khalayaknya. Of course with a balanced news, the press has been doing its function by publishing news that is accurate and educational, with the hope of society increasingly understand or understand in addressing problems of Government policy.

b). WASPADA Online Journalists attitude regarding the application of the ethics codes of journalism.

Tabel 2. WASPADA Online Journalists attitude regarding the application of the ethics codes of journalism.

act	content	opinion	Results (Skala Likert)
1	Indonesia journalists behave Independently, producing accurate news, balanced, and have a good faith	Really Agree: 3 Agree: 5 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	87,5 % (Very Strong)
2	Indonesia journalists attended the ways that professionals in the exercise of journalistic duties	Really Agree: 5 Agree: 3 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	92,5 % (Very Strong)
3	Indonesia journalists always test information, memberita-kan are balanced, not mixing facts and opinions that judge, and applies the principle of presumption of innocence	Really Agree: Agree: 3 doubtful: 1 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	87,5 % (Very Strong)
4	Indonesia journalists didn't make the news lying, slander, sadistic, and obscene	Really Agree: 3 Agree: 5 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	87,5 % (Very Strong)
5	Journalists did not mention Indonesia and identity crime victims broadcast decency and	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0	90 % (Very Strong)

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

	not mention the identity of children who become perpetrators of evil	Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	
6	The journalist profession and does not abuse Indonesia does not accept bribes	Really Agree: 3 Agree: 5 orang doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	87,5 % (Very Strong)
7	Reporters Indonesia had the right to protect a resource decline were not willing to note the identity or existence, to appreciate the provisions of the embargo, background information, and "off the record" in accordance with the agreement	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (Very Strong)
8	Indonesia journalists don't write or broadcast the news based on prejudice or discrimination against people on the basis of sese difference tribe, race, color, religion, gender, and language and are not degrading the person is weak, poor, sick, disability physical disability or soul	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (Very Strong)
9	Reporters Indonesia respects the speaker about his private life, except for the public interest	Really Agree: 2 Agree: 5 doubtful: 1 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	82,5 % (Very Strong)
10	Wartawan Indonesia segera mencabut, meralat, dan memperbaiki berita yang keliru dan tidak akurat disertai dengan permintaan maaf kepada pembaca, pendengar, dan atau pemirsa	Really Agree: 5 Agree: 3 orang doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	92,5 % (Very Strong)
11	Indonesia journalists serve the right Answer and the right Correction proportionally	Really Agree: 4 Agree: 4 doubtful: 0 Disagree: 0 Really Disagree: 0	90 % (Very Strong)

From the table above it can be concluded, then, that WASPADA Online journalists agree with article 11 contained in the code of ethics of journalism Indonesia Journalist. The article to the attention of researchers including articles 4, 6 and 10 Journalistic code of ethics. In article 4 which reads "Indonesia Journalists didn't make the news lying, slander, sadistic and obscene". Results of questionnaire respondents answered 3 people stated strongly agree and 5 people answer agreed.

So the results of the likertnya scale of 87.5 percent, then it can be interpreted that there is a very strong relationship between this chapter with an attitude of WASPADA Online journalists agrees with the statement of Indonesia Journalists do not make News lie, slander, sadistic and obscene. Respondents assess loading news lie, slander, sadistic and obscene would be fooling the public.

As has been expressed before the loading of the news lie and slander violates the journalistic principle "cover both side".

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

Earlier, WASPADA Online contains the rubric about sex. In this section, there are news stories that inform about sex, such as news, titled "trick so you can orgasm 15 minutes!" and "the ideal sex Duration 10 minutes" (attached). The second news is indeed likely to news that smells obscene and cinematic images (image tag) that is sexy, especially the news published in the afternoon. However, after a change of editor in chief, the rubric was removed starting in 2014.

On article 6, which reads "Indonesia Journalists not to abuse the profession and did not receive bribes". Results of questionnaire respondents answered 3 people stated strongly agree and 5 people answer agreed. So the results of the likertnya scale of 87.5 percent, then it can be interpreted that there is a very strong relationship between this chapter with an attitude of WASPADA Online journalists agrees with the statement of Indonesia no reporters abusing the profession and did not accept the bribe. The respondents rate the journalists who received the bribe is not professional journalists. Often times when reporting interviews give rewards in order for it to load. As a professional journalist, should not receive a reward when the coverage, but applications in the field are often different. Many journalists who expect rewards when reporting, under the pretext of lack of salary so that it is not sufficient for the needs of his household.

In article 10 which reads "Indonesia Journalists immediately revoke, revise and correct the erroneous news and inaccurate accompanied by an apology to readers, listeners, viewers and or". The results of the questionnaire stated 5 respondents answered strongly agree and 3 people replied in agreement. So the results of the likertnya scale of 92.5 percent, then it can be interpreted that there is a very strong relationship between this chapter with an attitude of WASPADA Online journalists

agree with statement if Indonesia journalists immediately revoke, revise and correct the erroneous news and inaccurate accompanied by an apology to readers, listeners, and or viewers. Sometimes, for the sake of pursuing the actuality or up date news, media often contain siber news are still sourced from one side only. However, WASPADA Online imposed the principle "cover both side" so the news instantly diup-date with interviewees responses to his opponent. According to the respondent in accordance with Act No. 40 of the year 1999, of the press, the press should serve the right answer and the right of correction resource diberitakannya. The siber media does not serve the right answer can be sentenced to a criminal fine of at most Rp 500.000.000,- (five hundred million rupiah).

3. CONCLUSION

After analyzing existing data through interviews directly to respondents qualitatively, then gained some conclusions or suggestions regarding the attitude of WASPADA Online journalists against freedom of the press and the journalistic code of ethics. Conclusions or advice was expected to be useful to the world of journalism, community, organizations of the profession of journalist and is also a useful input for the Government.

As for the conclusions of this research are as follows:

1. From the results of the questionnaire, the majority of journalists agree on CHAPTER II (article 2 and article 6), the press law Number 40 of the year 1999, on principle, functions, rights, obligations and the role of the press. Although WASPADA Online journalists agree with the existence of a freedom of the press, but they still pay attention to the signs that exist, namely the journalistic code of ethics.

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

2. WASPADA Online journalists agree in addressing the eleven articles in the Journalistic code of ethics. They consider the Journalistic code of ethics as a guide a person to become a professional journalist. Although in practice on the ground is still not a maximum, especially related to reporters "envelope" that is rampant in the city of Medan. Informant assess lack of training or the lack of journalists who follow the competence to make the quality of reporters in Medan is still less well, plus more on the issue of salary in some media that are still under the UMR.

3. WASPADA Online journalists judge that press freedom is a freedom that ensures journalists to issue opinions, facts, and ensure the safety of his journalistic activities in running so that it can more freely deliver a variety of things that are considered necessary to the public at large without any constraints and interference of foreign parties in particular owners of capital newspaper company itself. But behind that freedom, the press should also be held responsible and be professional in carrying out the public information mandate, because according to the 1945 CONSTITUTION article 28 as mandated maximum press function, it's necessary because press freedom is one of the embodiment of popular sovereignty and constitutes a very important element in the life of society and a democratic State as well as responsibilities.

4. The situation of press freedom in Indonesia currently practice similar to freedom of the press 1950-1959 year era known as the era of liberal democracy that the libertarian-style memprogandakan the concept of "the open market place of ideas". The concept of substance through IE, let the press be free to preach anything that dinilainya needs to be preached. Government or society in no case be interrupt, let alone slow him down. Finally, the correct view will prevail while the

wrong will be eliminated because the reader has the ability to determine the reason.

REFERENCE

- Aly, Bachtiar, 1994. *Pers Indonesia Menghadapi Tuntutan Zaman*. Lembaga Pers Dokter Soetomo, Jakarta.
- Anto, J. 2005. *Menyoal Kebebasan Pers, Pers Bebas dan Keablasan Pers*. KIPPAS, Medan
- Assegaff, Djaffar Husein, 1991. *Jurnalistik Masa Kini Pengantar Ke Praktek Kewartawanan*. Ghalia Indonesia, Jakarta.
- Chafee, Zechariah, Jr. 1947. *Government and Mass Communications: A Report from the Commission on Freedom of the Press*. Two volumes. The University of Chicago Press, Chicago.
- Dahlan, M. Alwi, 2005. *Antara slogan dan Profesionalisme, dalam Setengah Abad Pergulatan Etika Pers*. Dewan Kehormatan PWI, Jakarta.
- Dewan Pers. 2011. *Jurnal Dewan Pers Edisi: Era Media Online, New Media* (no.4, Januari 2011). Dewan Pers, Jakarta
- Dewan Pers. 2008. *Mengelola Kebebasan Pers*. Yayasan TIFA, Jakarta.
- Dharmasaputra, Karaniya. 2011. *Jurnal Dewan Pers Edisi 4: Era Media Online, New Media, Antara Kemerdekaan Berekspresi dan Etika*. Dewan Pers, Jakarta.

Submit date: 10 December 2020 Reviews date: 4 February 2021 Published: 23 April 2021

- Fink, Conrad C., 1988. *Media Ethick in News Room and Beyond*. McGraw-Hill series, New York.
- Gibson, James L. Ivancevich, John M. Donnelly jr, James H., 2000. *Organizations, Behaviours, Structure , Processes*, 10th Editions. Irwin McGraw Hill, USA.
- Harahap, Krisna. 2000. *Kebebasan Pers di Indonesia*. Grafitri budi Utami, Bandung.
- Hocking, William Ernest, (Commission on Freedom of the Press), 1947. *A Freedom of the Press, a Framework of Principle*, University of Chicago Press, Chicago.
- Junaedhi, Kurniawan. 1991. *Ensiklopedia Pers Indonesia*. PT Gramedia Pustaka Utama, Jakarta.
- Kahyo, Eyo. 2004. *Perbandingan Sistem dan Kemerdekaan Pers*. Pustaka Bumi Quraisy, Bandung.
- Maltby, J., Day, L., Macaskill, A, 2007. *Personality, Individual Differences and Intelligence*. at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Locus_of_control
- Muis, Andi Abdul,.1996. *Kontroversi Sekitar Kebebasan Pers*. Mario Grafika, Jakarta.
- Oetama, Jakob. 2001. *Pers Indonesia*. Buku Kompas, Jakarta.
- Prakoso, Bambang. 1994. *Jurnalistik Tanpa Guru*. Pabelan, Jakarta.
- Rachmadi, F. 1990. *Perbandingan Sistem Pers*. PT Gramedia, Jakarta
- Sobur, Alex, 2001. *Etika Pers*. Humanior Utama Press, Bandung.
- Sukardi, Wina Armada, 2007. *Close Up Seperempat Abad Pelaksanaan Kode Etik Jurnalistik*. Dewan Pers, Jakarta
- Unger, Roberto Mangabeira, 1976. *Law In Modern Society*. Free Press, New York.
- Wahyudi, J.B., 1986. *Media Komunikasi Massa Televisi*. Alumni: Universitas Michigan
- Walgito, Bimo, 2001. *Psikologi Sosial*. Penerbit Andi, Yogyakarta.
- William R., Rivers at.al., 2003. *Media Massa & Masyarakat Modern*, Edisi Kedua. Prenada Media, Jakarta.
- Wisnu, Basuki. 1997. *Pers dan Penguasa*. Pusaka Sinar Harapan, Jakarta.