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Reporters Without Borders

Peru: Adjournment welcomed of second reading of law on NGOs

One of the major objectives the press freedom organization pursues with the support of the Overbrook Foundation is the monitoring of legal systems and the collaboration with authorities and representatives of the civil society to any action intending to protect fundamental rights and to build the Rule of Law.

Reporters Without Borders and its Andean partner, the Press and Society Institute (IPYS), welcomed as a first victory the adjournment of a second reading of a law which would have placed Peru's non-governmental organizations under direct state control. The two organizations supported the broad campaign against the law launched on the grounds of unconstitutionality and reminded the Peruvian authorities of a dangerous precedent in the law on NGOs voted through in Russian in January 2006. The reform would have brought 3,174 foreign and local NGOs under the direct control of the Peruvian International Cooperation Agency (APCI), in the "public interest," thus affecting not just their functioning but also their objectives.

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