



Follow Us:



Home / India / India joins G7, 4 others to protect free speech, 'online and offline'

# India joins G7, 4 others to protect free speech, 'online and offline'

The signatories said that democracies enable “open public debate, independent and pluralistic media” and the “free flow of information online and offline”, fostering legitimacy, transparency, responsibility and accountability for citizens and elected representatives alike.

Written by **Shubhajit Roy** | New Delhi |

Updated: June 28, 2022 7:10:56 am



PM Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden, Canada's PM Justin Trudeau at the G7 meeting at Schloss Elmau Castle, Germany, on Monday. (PTI)



freedom, independence and diversity of civil society actors” and “education  
 freedom of expression and opinion online and offline”.

My Account Epaper

A four-page statement, after Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** participated in the G-7 summit in Germany, said, “We, the Leaders of Germany, Argentina, Canada, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Senegal, South Africa, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and the European Union, affirm our commitment to strengthening the resilience of our democracies.”

“We hail all courageous defenders of democratic systems that stand against oppression and violence, and will step up international cooperation to improve the resilience of democratic societies globally,” it stated.

The signatories said that democracies enable “open public debate, independent and pluralistic media” and the “free flow of information online and offline”, fostering legitimacy, transparency, responsibility and accountability for citizens and elected representatives alike.

## BEST OF EXPRESS PREMIUM



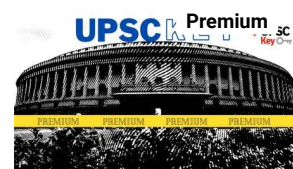
**Rationalisation, reforms may test Centre-state relations at GST meet**



**Clampdown & unclear policy, crypto exchange founders leaving India**



**The 2/3rds rule in anti-defection law**



**UPSC Key-June 27, 2022: Know the relevance of 'Deputy Speaker' to 'Nation...**

[More Premium Stories >>](#)

And that they are prepared to defend these principles and are resolved to:

\* Protecting the freedom of expression and opinion online and offline and ensuring a free and independent media landscape through our work with relevant international initiatives.



\* **Increasing the cyber resilience of digital infrastructure, including by improving and sharing awareness of cyber threats and expanding cyber response cooperation.**

\* **Countering hybrid threats, in particular information manipulation and interference, including disinformation.**

\* **Cooperating to counter information manipulation, promote accurate information, and advocate for our shared democratic values worldwide.**

\* **Promoting affordable access to diverse sources of reliable and trustworthy information and data, online and offline, including through a multi-stakeholder approach, and by strengthening digital skills and digital literacy.**

\* **Enhancing transparency about the actions of online platforms to combat violent, extremist and inciting content online.**

The statement said that democracies lay and protect the foundations for free and vibrant civic spaces, enabling and encouraging civic engagement and political participation, which in turn stimulate meaningful legitimacy, creativity, innovation, social accountability, and responsibility.

It said, "We commit to:

\* **Guarding the freedom, independence and diversity of civil society actors, speaking out against threats to civic space, and respecting freedom of association and peaceful assembly.**

\* **Building resilience against malign foreign interference and acts of transnational repression that seek to undermine trust in government, society and media, reduce civic space and silence critical voices.**

\* **Advancing programmes for the protection of human rights defenders and all those exposing corruption.**

**It said that democracies promote solidarity and non-discriminatory, diverse, equitable, accessible and inclusive environments, enabling fair representation and political participation.**



cohesion, solidarity and the inclusion of all members of society while denouncing all forms of discrimination and violence”.

Education

**Express Subscription** Do not hit the wall, subscribe for the best coverage out of India starting at just \$5 per month

SUBSCRIBE NOW >



**Subscribe to receive the day's headlines from The Indian Express straight in your inbox**

strugglingforexistence@gmail.com

Subscribe

**Join our Telegram channel (The Indian Express) for the latest news and updates**

For all the latest **India News**, download **Indian Express App**.

### NewsGuard



The Indian Express website has been rated GREEN for its credibility and trustworthiness by NewsGuard, a global service that rates news sources for their journalistic standards.

© The Indian Express (P) Ltd

**TAGS:** G7 Nations

**Post Comment(s) \***

\* The moderation of comments is automated and not cleared manually by indianexpress.com.

ADVERTISEMENT