

## **THE FOUNDATIONS OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM:**

### **The First Amendment, Constitution of the United States of America**

Intellectual freedom can be defined as the freedom of thought, inquiry, and expression. It is the freedom that is most clearly enunciated in the First Amendment to the U. S. Constitution:

Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof, or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

### **The Fourteenth Amendment, Constitution of the United States of America**

The Fourteenth Amendment adds the weight of equal treatment for citizens in the enactment and enforcement of laws:

All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law.

### **Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted December 10, 1948, by the General Assembly of the United Nations**

#### **Article 19**

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.