

# How Did the Ghost Vanish?

(August 2024)

One can hardly fail to hear the current deafening clamour from around the outraged worldwide Intellectualopolis, to the effect that the recent arrest and incarceration of a young cosmopolitan captain of industry demonstrated the vanishing of some Sacred Constitutional Freedom of Speech and of the Press from the birthplace of such luminaries and defenders of freedom as Voltaire and Montesquieu.

However, one would be quite hard-pressed to find in the Gallic Constitution any kind of solid guarantee of some freedom of speech <sup>1</sup>, let alone anything resembling even remotely the famous First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gloriously prohibits altogether any law abridging fundamental liberties.

On the contrary, there exists in the Natoleonic State, since 1881, a Law <sup>2</sup>, which expresses clearly in 70 interminable articles all the impediments imagined by the State to limit said freedom.

Find a comparative analysis here: [Freedom of the Press in France and in the United States](#) <sup>3</sup>.

**How did the Ghost vanish, who existed only in the imagination of the credulous?**

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<sup>1</sup> As a note, the Constitution does refer to the "*Universal Declaration of Human Rights*", which states interestingly in its Article 18 that "*everyone has the right to freedom of thought*", although without stipulating the manner in which any polity could ever proscribe the thoughts of its constituents (Lord forbid!)

<sup>2</sup> Labelled, perhaps quite ironically: "*Law on the freedom of the press, 29 July 1881 (extant 2023)*".

<sup>3</sup> A few articles in the law, in particular those pertaining to "*insults to the head of state*" were abrogated in the last decade, although only because of relentless pressure from European constitutional bodies.