

Contents

Preface	6
1. Introduction to the study	9
1.1 Introduction	9
1.2 The aim and the issues	11
1.3 Method and limitations	11
1.3.1 How the interviews were made	13
1.3.2 Difficulties and advantages in the interviews	15
1.4 Disposition	17
2. Background	17
2.1 Short facts about the country	17
2.2 The conditions for the media during Guided Democracy and the New Order	18
2.3 The wind of change in the 1990s	21
2.4 Political changes and the new media landscape	24
3. Theoretic discussion and considerations	27
3.1 Democracy and civil society	27
3.2 Media's role in democracy	30
3.3 Media and democracy in Indonesia	32
4. The new Press Law – Law No. 40 of 1999	37
4.1 How the press law was drafted	37
4.2 Why was a new press law needed?	40
4.3 The content of the law	43
4.3.1 Legal sanctions	46
4.3.2 The press council	48
4.4 The need for other laws	51
5. The implementation of the Press Law	52
5.1 Do the journalists know about the law?	52
5.2 Possibilities	55
5.2.1 Freedom of expression	55
5.2.2 The new minister of communication and information	58
5.3 Obstacles	60
5.3.1 Violence against the press	60
5.3.2 Economic problems	62
5.3.3 Envelope journalism and the lack of professionalism	63
5.3.4 Other laws	66
5.3.5 The absence of working institutions	67
5.4 A real step towards more freedom of the press?	70

6. Conclusions	71
7. Sources	74
Appendix	78