

# THE ROLE OF THE PRESS AND CIVIL SOCIETY IN CONTROL OF POLITICAL FINANCING

*Where we've been and where we're going:  
More than a decade of institutional reforms  
and civic activism*

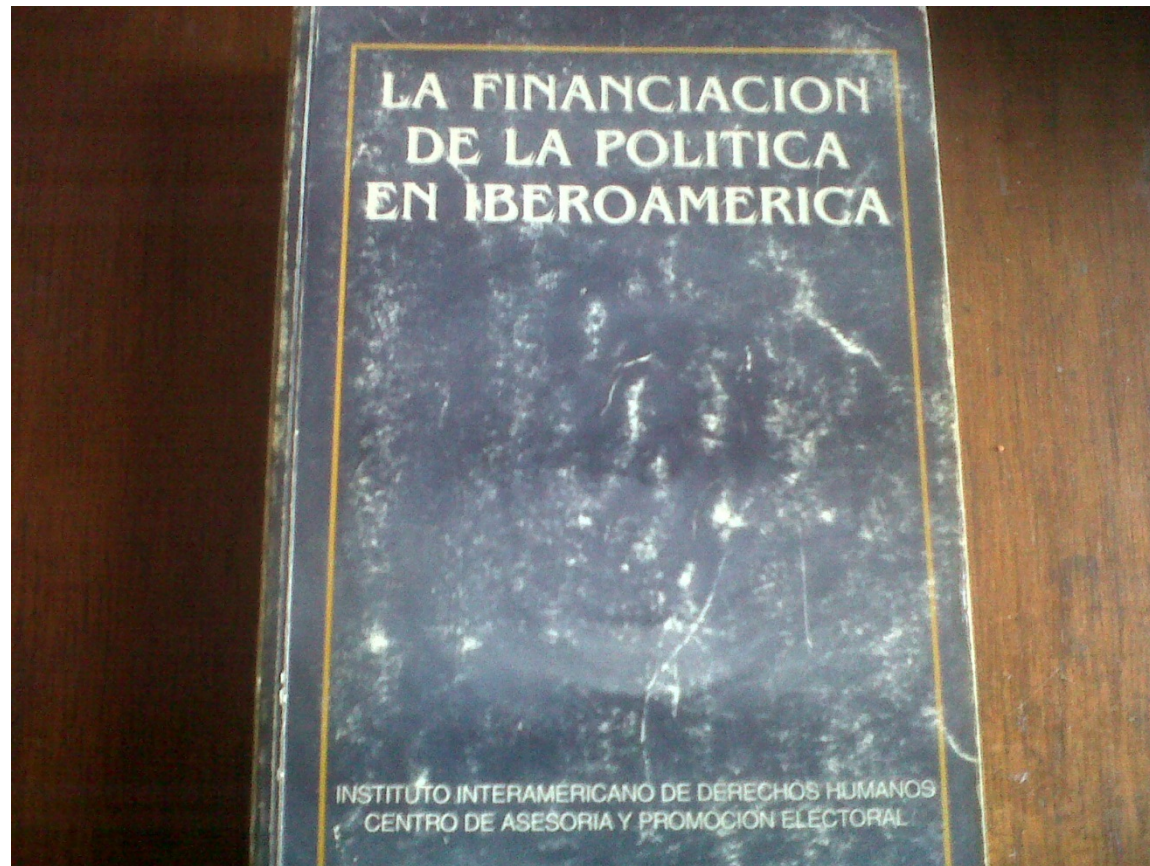
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9/10/2013, Argentina



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Let's start at the beginning....



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# LIMA ACCORD IS CREATED (9/2000)

1. Colombia – Electoral Observation Mission (EOM)
  2. Argentina – Citizen Power
  3. Chile - Participate
  4. Ecuador – Citizen Participation
  5. El Salvador - Social Initiative for Democracy
  6. Guatemala – Citizen Action
  7. Haiti – National Observation Council
  8. Bolivia – Transparent Bolivia
  9. Mexico – Civic Alliance
  10. Nicaragua – Ethics and Transparency
  11. Panama – Justice and Peace
  12. Paraguay – Let’s Decide
  13. Peru - Transparency
  14. Dominican Republic – Citizen Participation
- \*\*Observer members include NDI and CAPEL.



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# TWO IMPORTANT LESSONS QUICKLY LEARNED

1. Spending can be obscured, hidden, and disguised.
2. It is more effective to control the causes (triggers) of spending than to control spending in accounting terms.

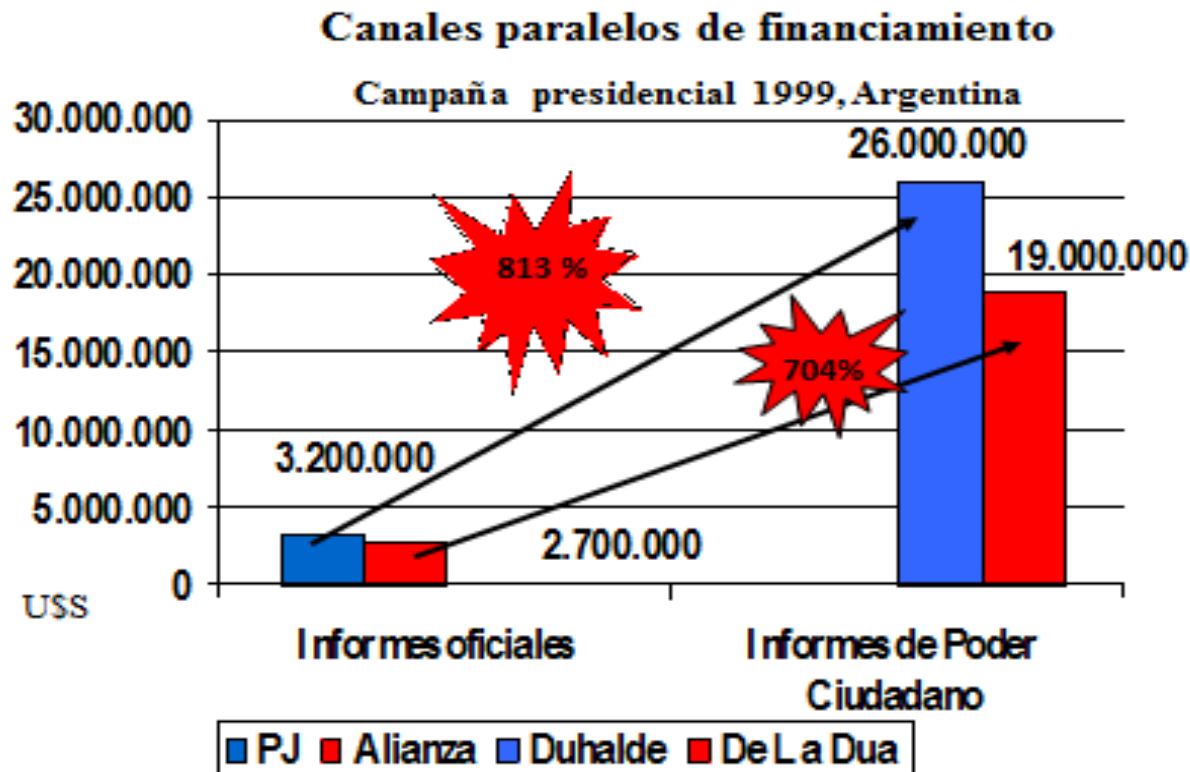


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# TRANSPARENCY AGREEMENT BETWEEN CIVIL SOCIETY AND POLITICAL PARTIES

## 1999 Presidential Campaign, Argentina



Fuente: Poder Ciudadano

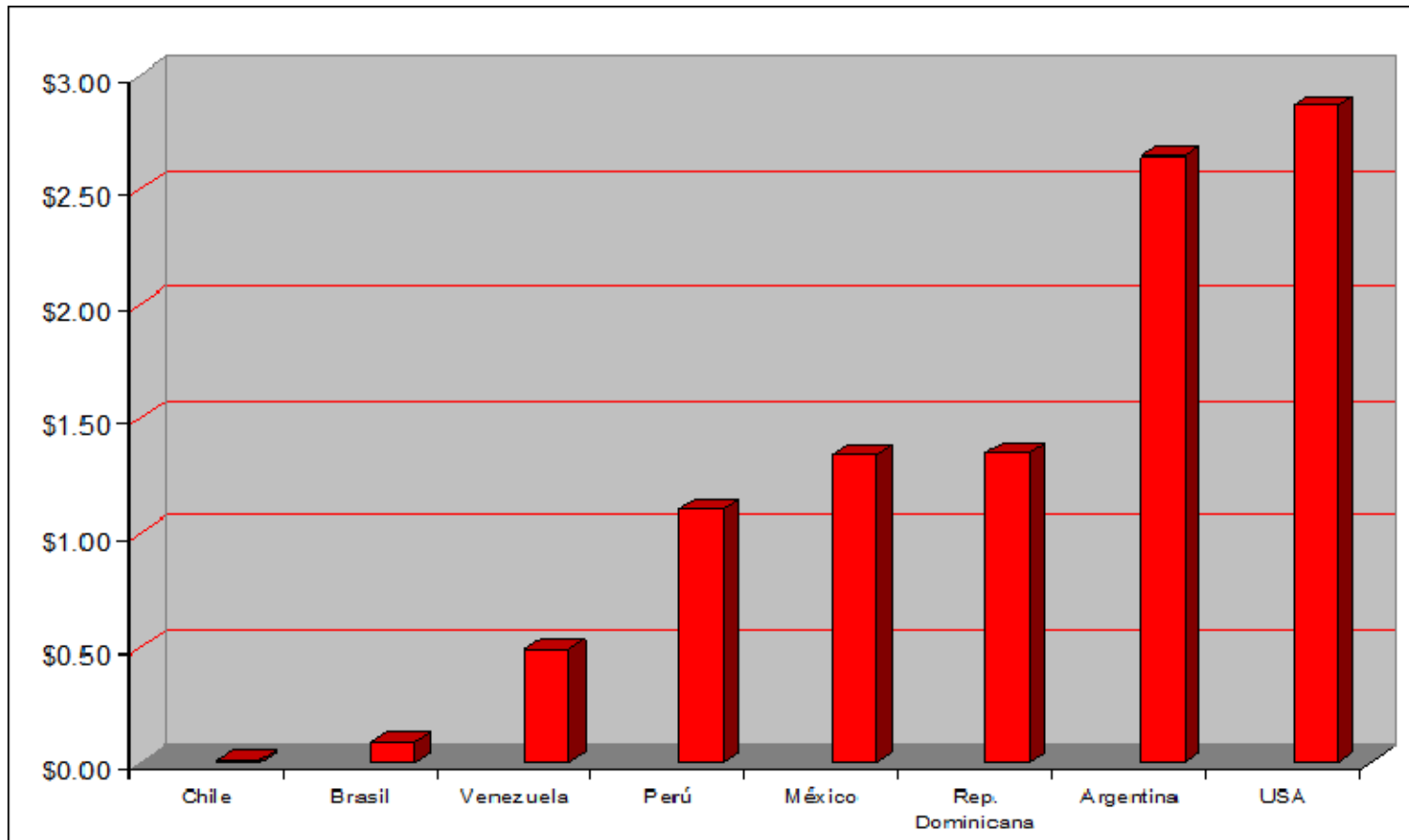


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# Country rankings for per capita spending on mass media campaign advertising (2002)

Source: Citizen Power Foundation

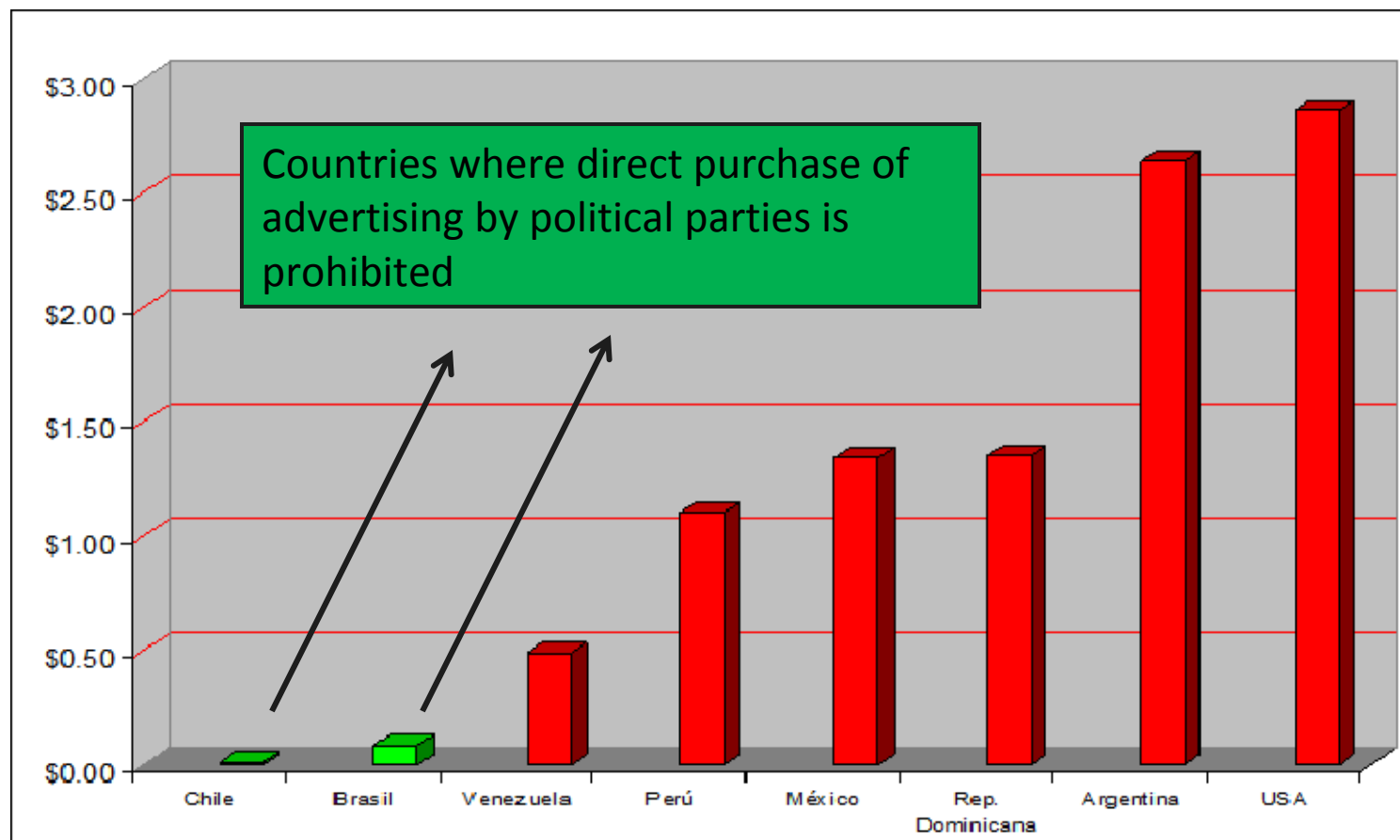


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# Countries where direct purchase of advertising by political parties is prohibited (2002)

Source: Citizen Power Foundation



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# The strategy expands regionally

1. Participate (Chile)
2. Citizen Participation (Dom. Rep.)
3. Citizen Action (Guatemala)
4. Group Promoting Regulation of Political Financing (Paraguay)
5. Rumeau, Dominique (Uruguay)
6. Transparency International (Costa Rica)
7. Transparency International (Nicaragua)
8. Transparency Civil Association (Peru)
9. Argentina (Citizen Power)



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# THE ROLE OF THE PRESS IN CONTROL OF POLITICAL FINANCING

*Part of the problem or  
part of the solution?  
Or both?*

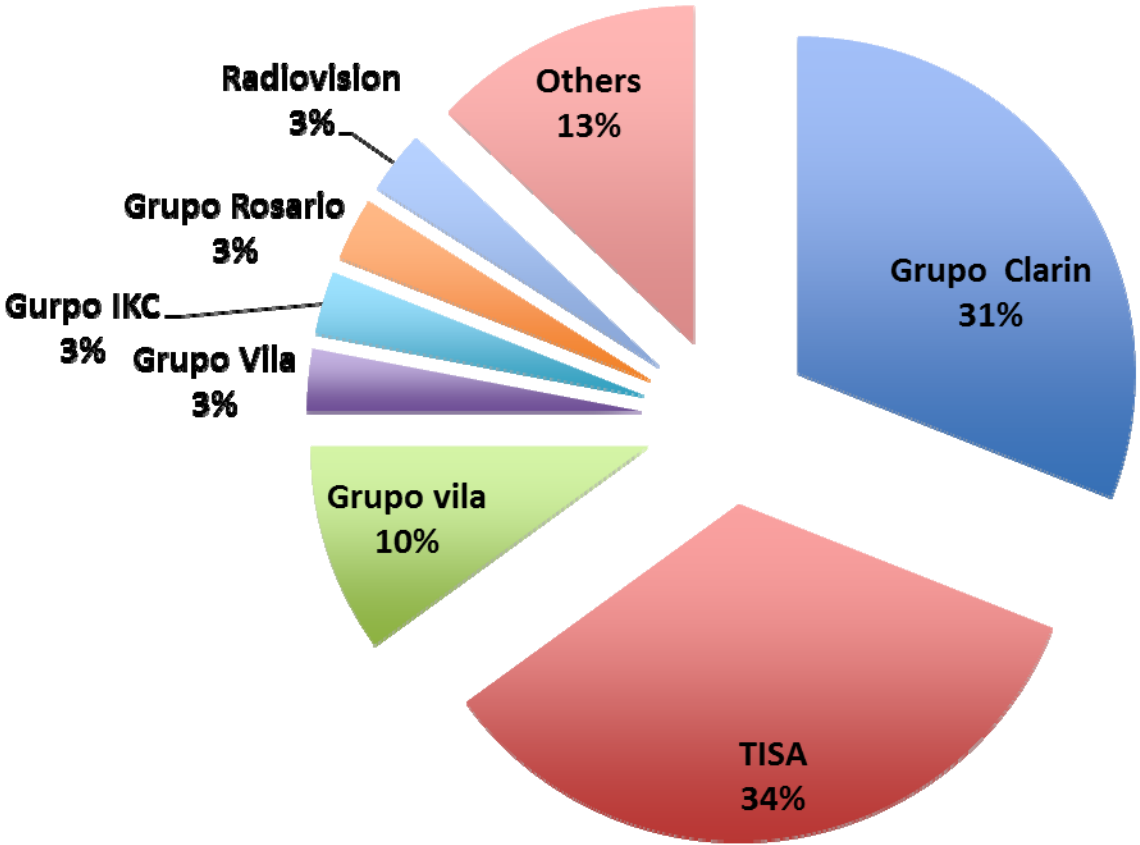


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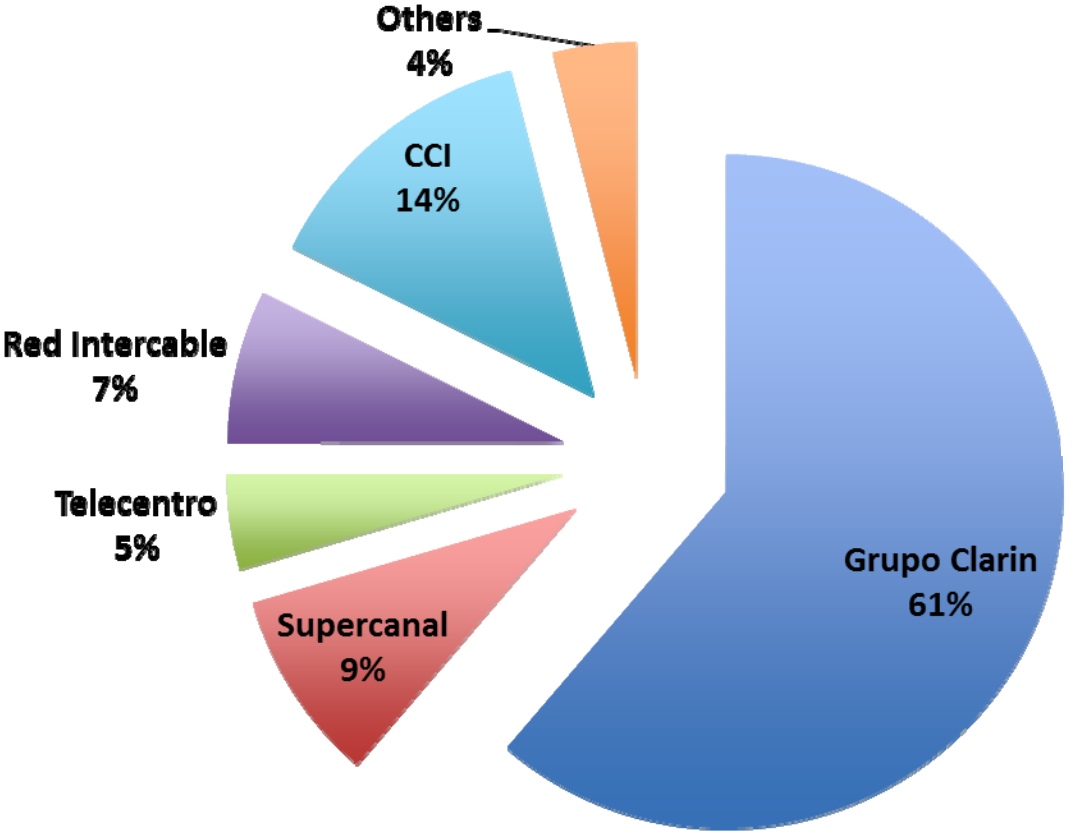


# Ownership structure of private channels: 65% held by only 2 groups



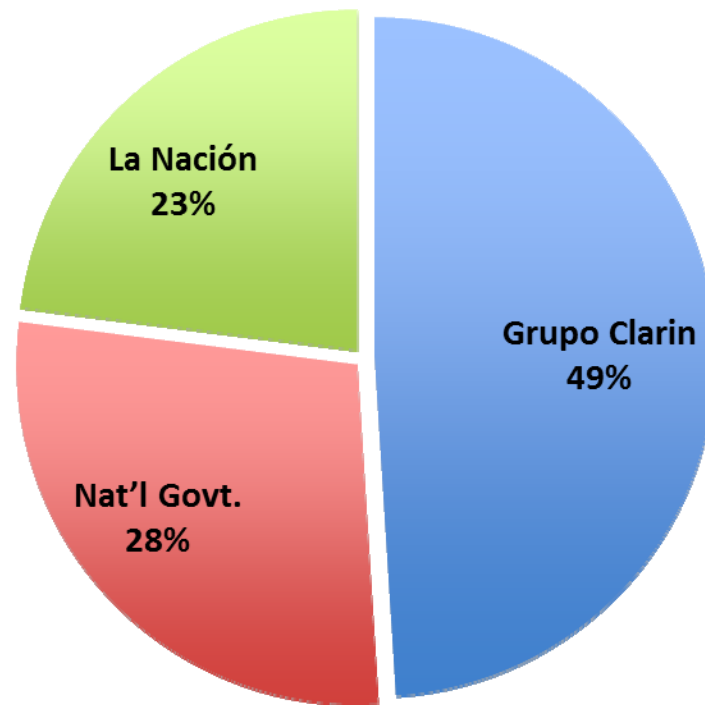
**Source: National Commission in Defense of Competition**

# Cable TV distribution market: One group (Clarín) holds most of market



**Source: National Commission in Defense of Competition**

# *AND WHO OWNS NEWSPRINT IN ARGENTINA?*



**Source: CELS , Human Rights Report, 2011**

**OFFICIAL GUIDELINE**

Reform pending. Debate continues in Congress.

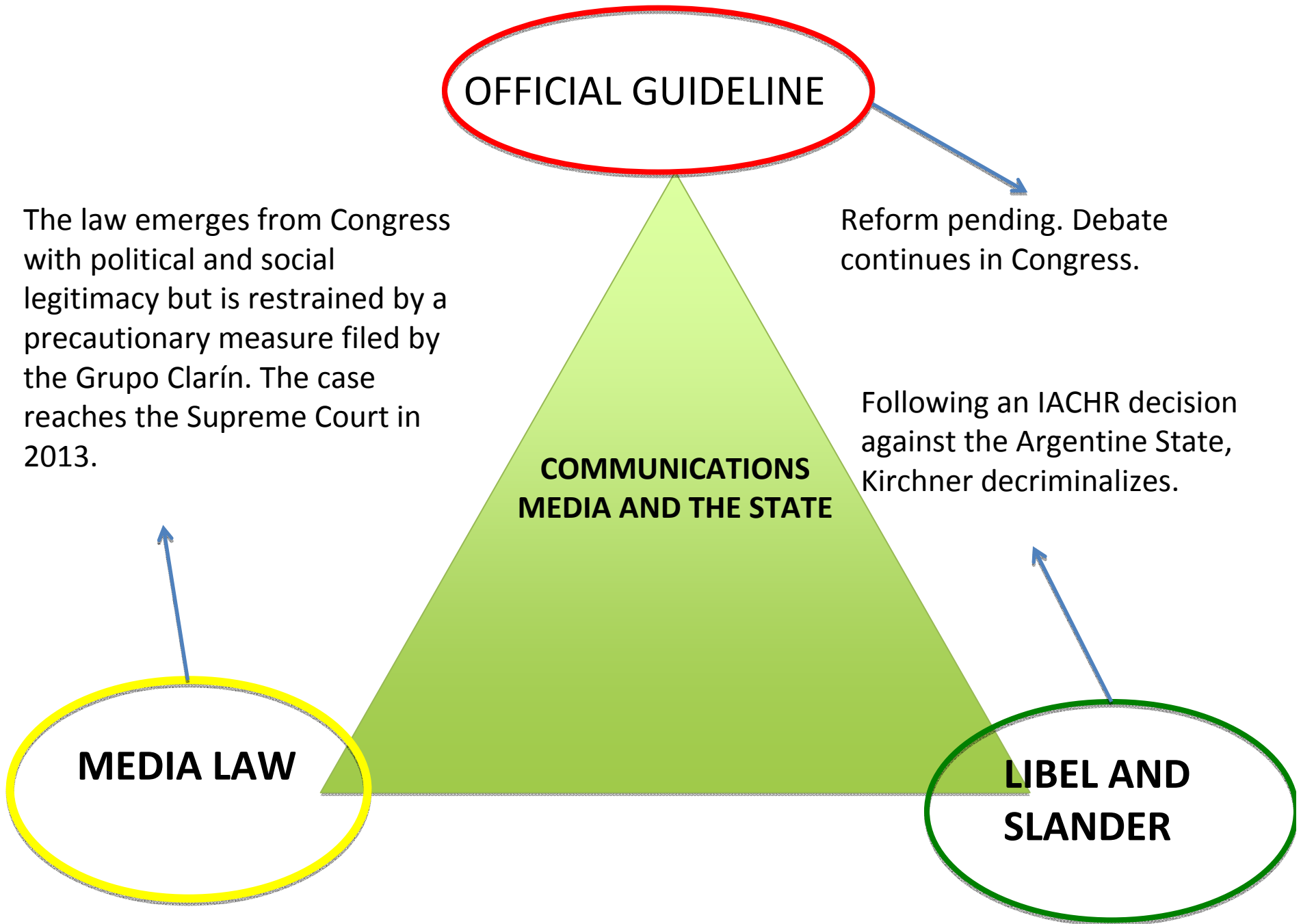
Following an IACHR decision against the Argentine State, Kirchner decriminalizes.

**COMMUNICATIONS  
MEDIA AND THE STATE**

The law emerges from Congress with political and social legitimacy but is restrained by a precautionary measure filed by the Grupo Clarín. The case reaches the Supreme Court in 2013.

**MEDIA LAW**

**LIBEL AND  
SLANDER**



# THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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