

## **Alternative Enforcement of Illegal Publications Online**

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Cyberspace has led to a dramatic rise of illegal speech (content-related offences). The technological and legal characteristics of cyberspace enable the perpetrators to publish illegal content online that can reach an unlimited audience, at a negligible cost, and with a minimum risk of being exposed and arrested. As a result, content-related offences online have flourished, and classic criminal enforcement has failed to tackle the problem. It is therefore necessary to seek an alternative strategy to the classic criminal enforcement of illegal speech online. The alternative approach discussed in this article is named “alternative enforcement” and it embodies a strategy of focusing on the illegal publication itself, not the publisher; on the offense, and not the offender. Alternative enforcement consists of actions such as content removal, blocking access to the illegal content, content filtering, and disconnection or suspension of users from the platform upon which they published the illegal content. Alternative enforcement actions may be divided into actions on a voluntary basis, upon which the internet platform removes the content or reduces the exposure to it.

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