Björn Küllmer, The Regulation of Internet Content in Democratic Systems – Germany, Great Britain, USA, Springer VS, Wiesbaden 2019

(Björn Küllmer, Die Regulierung von Internetinhalten in demokratischen Systemen – Deutschland, Großbritannien, USA, Springer VS, Wiesbaden 2019)

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Abstract

The control and regularization of content in the media is also in democracies a task the state has to deal with. At the same time freedom of the media is an important and constituting element of a functioning civil society. To enforce the claims of regulation on the one hand and to preserve the independence of the media from direct state control on the other hand the means of choice is the delegation of competences to independent governmental, economic or civil actors – briefly the regulation of media content.

When in the mid-1990s the *World Wide Web* caused the massive spread of the internet as „new media" and theoretically borderless and decentralized communication space, very soon the question of the necessity and enforceability of content regulation emerged. The work in hand analyzes by the cases Germany, Great Britain and the USA how democratic states implement content regulation to the internet. What influence have existing regulation regimes of the „classic media" to the new developing content controls in the internet?

It is analyzed what influence have institutional preconditions and actors constellations to the possibility of institutional change in the domain of regulation regimes of media control. Determine existing regulation regimes in other forms of media the configuration of regulation regimes of internet content are the completely new forms of media governance in development or converge the various existing regulation regimes to one universal regulator?