

## ***Access Info Europe***

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### **Helen Darbshire, Executive Director**

Helen Darbshire, Executive Director of Access Info Europe, is a human rights professional specializing in access to information, freedom of expression and media freedom. Ms Darbshire's recent work has focused on promoting the adoption and implementation of access to information laws in Europe and Latin America, as well as defending the right to information globally. She has also directed numerous civil society projects to incorporate a human rights perspective into media and broadcasting regulation, state secrets laws and data protection legislation.

Ms Darbshire's human rights experience spans 18 years, working first with Article 19 based in London and Paris (1989-1998), and then with the Open Society Institute based in Budapest and New York (1999-2005), as well as being a consultant for inter-governmental organizations (including UNESCO, the Council of Europe, the OSCE and the European Union) and a number of non-governmental organizations. Since 2005, Helen has been Executive Director of Access Info Europe, headquartered in Madrid. She is a founder member and current chair of the Freedom of Information Advocates Network. Ms Darbshire has published and lectured widely on freedom of expression and democratization issues, and holds a degree in History and Philosophy of Science and Psychology from the University of Durham, UK.

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