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## Editor's Note

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## SYMPOSIUM

### NEW WORLD INFORMATION ORDER

#### *Editor's Note:*

Communication, whether by voice, print or electronic transmission, is an important part of all human interaction. A growing awareness of communication's role in international relations has existed in recent years, as evidenced by UNESCO's Mass Media Declaration of 1978, which called for a New World Information Order. The touchstone of this order, which has been heralded by some and denounced by others, is a free and balanced flow of information throughout the world. The order's proponents believe it will equalize the disparity of information flow to and from the lesser developed countries. Its critics, however, think the order will lead to governmental censorship and bias, undermining the democratic values of free speech and press.

A symposium was held at New York Law School on May 21, 1982 in order to present the varying views of public and private sector participants in the global communication process. The three areas discussed were the New World Information Order, Transborder Data Flow and Spectrum Negotiations. The following issue of the *Journal of International and Comparative Law* is a compilation and expansion of some of the commentaries delivered at that symposium. The Editors wish to thank the members of the International Law Society for organizing this important discussion.

