

## Commentary – Media Communications – Social Media

The following commentary supplements the provision in the Code of Conduct which applies to communication on social media.

Members who engage in social media should recognize that the rules around decorum and respect apply regardless of the communications medium used. Because social media posts attract participation by others, Members hosting such sites or accounts should consider articulating and posting their own policy of addressing how frequently they will monitor the site for the purpose of identifying and removing disparaging, abusive or hateful comments.

For open sites (where no approval of participation is required) Members should also not block persons from reading or posting on the site unless their posts are not complaint with the policy, such as by engaging in openly abusive or threatening language. If blocking becomes appropriate, Members should not do so without notice to the person to be blocked, containing the reasons for the blocking, and the length of time the blocking is to be in place. Members should take care not to block persons from their social media sites merely because a person disagrees with the Members viewpoint or political stance.