



**MUUSAN**

**MAINE**

Unitarian Universalist  
State Advocacy Network

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**Statement On Democracy  
and A Free Press**

**Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network**

**March 2017**

*To preserve the freedom of the human mind then and freedom of the press, every spirit should be ready to devote itself to martyrdom; for as long as we may think as we will, and speak as we think, the condition of man will proceed in improvement. — Thomas Jefferson, letter to William Green Mumford (18 June 1799)*

We all know that one of the safeguards of an open democracy is a strong, vibrant free press that investigates and disseminates the truth to all. This is one of the most prized principles of our Founding Fathers. We now see our United States media under constant political attack, with some of the most respected and honest journalistic institutions vilified by those who want to twist facts for their own means.

Our Unitarian Universalist Fifth Principle states that we support the democratic process, not only in our congregations but also in society at large. We can defend our democracy and our free press in a simple and effective way by buying paid subscriptions to publications.

The Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network (MUUSAN), which advocates for democracy, asks that you buy a subscription to the newspaper of your choice, even if you read your news online. By purchasing a paid subscription, we are putting our UU faith in action.

***Approved 3.6.17  
Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network***