



**THE STATUTES OF THE REPUBLIC OF SINGAPORE**

**UNDESIRABLE PUBLICATIONS  
ACT 1967**

**2020 REVISED EDITION**

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# Undesirable Publications Act 1967

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An Act to prevent the importation, distribution or reproduction of undesirable publications and for purposes connected therewith.

[1 April 1967]

### **Short title**

1. This Act is the Undesirable Publications Act 1967.

## **Interpretation**

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires —

“authorised officer” means a person appointed under section 18(3) by the Minister to be an authorised officer for the purposes of this Act;

“broadcast” has the meaning given by section 27 of the Copyright Act 2021 and “broadcasting” has a corresponding meaning;

“Chief Controller” means the Chief Controller appointed under section 18(2);

“circulation”, in relation to any publication, includes the exhibition or supply thereof;

“controller” means a person appointed under section 18(1) by the Minister to be a controller;

“electronic transmission” includes facsimile transmission, electronic mail or other similar means of communication but excludes broadcasting;

“exhibit”, in relation to a sound recording, means to play that sound recording but does not include the broadcasting of the sound recording;

“film” has the same meaning as in the Films Act 1981;

“importer”, in relation to any article, includes any person who, whether as owner, consignee, agent or broker, is in possession of, or is in any way entitled to the custody or control of, the article;

“objectionable” and “obscene” have the meanings given to them by sections 4 and 3, respectively;

“periodical publication” includes every publication issued periodically or in parts or numbers at intervals whether regular or irregular;

“place” includes any vehicle, vessel, train or aircraft, whether in a public place or not;

“prohibited publication” means any publication the importation, sale or circulation of which has been prohibited under section 5;

“publication” means any of the following other than a film:

- (a) any book, magazine or periodical, whether in manuscript or final form;
- (b) any sound recording;
- (c) any picture or drawing, whether made by computer graphics or otherwise howsoever;
- (d) any photograph, photographic negative, photographic plate or photographic slide;
- (e) any paper, model, sculpture, tape, disc, article or thing —
  - (i) that has printed or impressed upon it any word, statement, sign or representation; or
  - (ii) on which is recorded or stored for immediate or future retrieval any information that, by the use of any computer or other electronic device, is capable of being reproduced or shown as any picture, photograph, word, statement, sign or representation,

and includes a copy of any publication;

“sound recording” means any tape, disc or other recording of sounds from which the sounds may be reproduced but does not include any soundtrack of a film;

“supply”, in relation to a publication, includes —

- (a) supply not only in its physical form but also by means of the electronic transmission of the contents of the publication;
- (b) supply by way of hire, exchange or loan; or