



# Publishers condemn Copenhagen attack on freedom of expression

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## International publishing community standing firm in support of open debate.

The International Publishers Association and the Danish Publishers Association strongly condemn Saturday's shootings in Copenhagen, where film director Finn Norgaard was killed during a free speech debate.

Stig Andersen, president of the Danish Publishers Association said "the attack on the meeting in Copenhagen, where people had gathered to discuss art, blasphemy and freedom of speech is a cruel assault on democratic core values."

IPA President Richard Charkin said "we must stand together in our support for freedom of expression. The horrors of Paris and now Copenhagen must not be allowed to silence opinion, creativity, and debate."

Ola Wallin, Chair of IPA's Freedom to Publish committee said that "freedom of expression is under increased threat around the world. This week it was Copenhagen, tomorrow it will be somewhere else. But publishers stand firm in their belief in openness, free debate, and respect for fellow human beings."

## Note to editors:

- The International Publishers Association is the international federation of national publishers associations, representing all aspects of book and journal publishing from around the world.

IPA is an industry association with a human rights mandate. It fights against censorship and promotes copyright, literacy and freedom to publish, around the world.

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