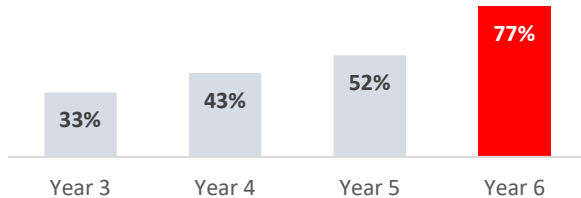


Freedom of expression - January to December 2021 (Year Six)

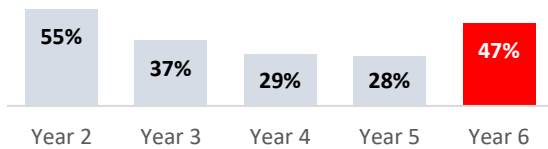
The Fundamental Freedoms Monitoring Project (FFMP) systematically monitors the ability of Cambodians to exercise the freedoms of association, expression and assembly. This dashboard presents the key findings on the freedom of expression from the FFMP's Sixth Annual Report. In 2021, the FFMP recorded **140** restrictions to freedom of expression, **96** of which amounted to violations of the right.

77% of the restrictions on the freedom of expression in 2021 occurred online.



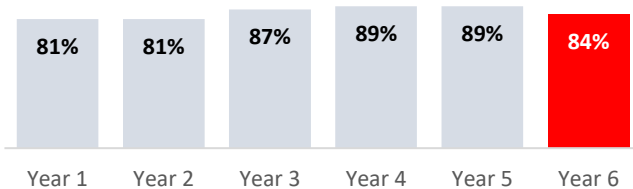
This increased percentage of online restrictions likely indicates a growing intolerance by the RGC of online speech and is likely the result of the RGC's increased surveillance of online platforms.

Less than half of Public Poll respondents felt free to speak openly on social media.

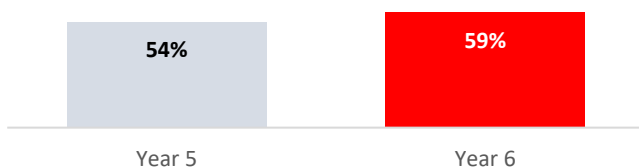


Rates of self-censorship remain high, demonstrating a limitation of the exercise of freedom of expression.

Percentage of CSO/TU leaders who self-censored in the last year



Percentage of individuals who reported not saying what they want in public or online for fear of retaliation



Press freedom is increasingly restricted: journalists are targeted for reporting on sensitive issues.

33 restrictions to the freedom of expression targeted journalists.

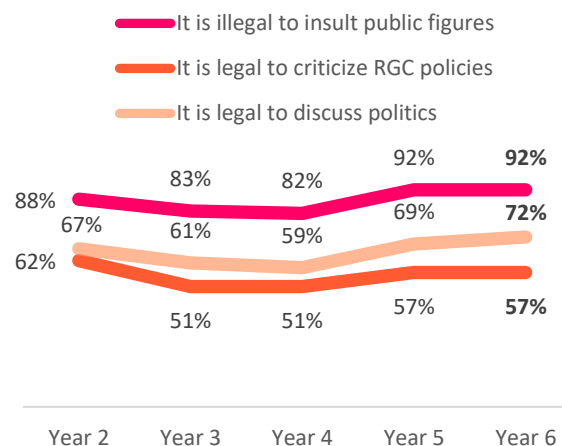
42% of those restrictions related to journalists reporting on land issues.

27% of those restrictions related to journalists reporting on COVID-19 issues.

6 media licenses were revoked for their coverage of COVID-19 issues.

A significant percentage of the Cambodian public believe that domestic laws related to the freedom of expression are more restrictive than they are.

Percentage of respondents who correctly answered that...



28% of respondents believe it is illegal to discuss politics whereas 43% believe it is illegal to criticize the RGC. This trend constrains freedom of expression as many individuals believe they cannot engage in political discourse, which is essential for democracy to flourish.