

Funding the Future

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As [Politico note this morning](#):

Leading Britain journalists have revealed [in the House of Commons] how London law firms intimidated journalists on behalf of mega-rich Russians, including harassing them with letters suggesting they were guilty of serious wrongdoing. Tom Burgis, the author of Kleptopia who was pursued unsuccessfully through the courts, named law firms Taylor Wessing, Schillings, Carter Ruck and Mishcon de Reya as having sent the letters.

As someone who lives every day, all day, with the thought that anything I publish might lead to a libel action, I appreciate such comments being drawn to our attention.

The simple fact is that we cannot have a free country without a free press. We have a country without a free press because the rich have access to oppressive libel laws that they use to abuse press freedom.

Amongst the many lessons to learn from war with Russia is that the UK libel law needs to change, and very soon.