



Defamation and Malicious Publication (Scotland) Act 2021

2021 asp 10

PART 1 **S**

DEFAMATION

Absolute privilege

9 Contemporaneous reports of court proceedings **S**

- (1) The contemporaneous publication of a statement which is a fair and accurate report of proceedings in public before a court to which this section applies is absolutely privileged.
- (2) Where the publication of a report of proceedings is required to be postponed—
 - (a) by an order of the court, or
 - (b) as a consequence of a statutory provision,it is to be treated as being contemporaneously published if it is published as soon as practicable after that is permitted.
- (3) This section applies to—
 - (a) any court in the United Kingdom,
 - (b) any court established under the law of a country or territory outside the United Kingdom, and
 - (c) any international court or tribunal established by the Security Council of the United Nations or by an international agreement.
- (4) For the purposes of subsection (3) (a) and (b), “court” includes any tribunal or body exercising the judicial power of the State.

Commencement Information

II [S. 9](#) in force at 8.8.2022 by [S.S.I. 2022/154](#), [regs. 1\(2\), 2](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Defamation and Malicious Publication (Scotland) Act 2021, Section 9.