



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Justice Delayed: Talk Liberation and WikiLeaks Lawyers Remain Resolute in Battle Against Bad Banking**

*Support an ongoing David vs Goliath struggle for justice against a powerful banking institution - at [BadBanki.com](https://BadBanki.com)*

Representatives of Talk Liberation, the software development house behind viral social media startup Panquake traveled to Reykjavik, Iceland, on April 3 to continue legal action against major Icelandic bank Islandsbanki.

Regrettably, the court informed participants that the hearing was postponed due to the judge's illness. While the team was unable to present the case as planned, Talk Liberation is awaiting the announcement of a new court date and will keep followers updated in the fight against #BadBanki.

Represented by WikiLeaks' Icelandic lawyers, Talk Liberation is seeking compensation for damage caused to its Icelandic operations by Islandsbanki, who withheld their seed funding and terminated their banking services in 2022, invoking money laundering and anti-terrorism financing laws to do so.

Ultimately, the funds were unfrozen clearing Talk Liberation of any allegations regarding money laundering or terrorism financing, and after nine months were returned. However, Islandsbanki offered no explanation, apology, or compensation for the damages incurred.

Sveinn Andrew Sveinsson, the Icelandic supreme court attorney working on the case said, "This case is yet another example of how the banking system is used to oppress free speech and journalism."

At a recent preliminary hearing on March 5th Sveinsson stated, "Talk Liberation notified the bank of the existence of the funds and everything was done by the book, the due diligence was OK. But it seems to me they looked into the main shareholder Suzie Dawson and realised she was in a sense *persona non grata* in her home country of New Zealand as she has been vocal in fighting for freedom of speech. And as you know for example, with WikiLeaks, this method has been used before, when the bankers gave the order to the card and the banking system to close down payments sent to

WikiLeaks. This is just the same method. My opinion is that Islandsbanki is just obeying orders that are coming from the international banking system.”

In March of 2023, Talk Liberation instructed lawyers to prepare suit to hold Islandsbanki to account. Across the last two years the case has progressed through a series of preliminary hearings, which will soon take shape with the upcoming case hearing. The hearing will act as a first judgement in what may be a longer fight.

Talk Liberation and Panquake Founder Suzie Dawson emphasises the case’s importance. Dawson said "We aim to achieve justice for everyone who supports the Panquake campaign. The bank's processes were disproportionate, abusive and lacked transparency. Islandsbanki made a number of easily disprovable and unfounded claims in an attempt to justify its withholding of our funds and closing of our accounts. It would be disappointing to discover that these were merely a cover masking a hidden motive of political persecution. One way or the other, we intend to get to the bottom of this for everyone's benefit and that is precisely what this lawsuit is about."

This case could set important legal precedents and even redefine what constitutes fair banking practices. The Bad Banki campaign amplifies the message that citizens deserve fairness, not obstruction, from those in power.

To raise awareness about the case and its public interest implications, Talk Liberation has launched [BadBanki.com](http://BadBanki.com) - #BadBanki

## **BACKGROUND:**

In 2021 Panquake was born out of the vision to rebalance the distribution of power between social media users and platforms, to create a space where users could communicate without being profiled and exploited by AI, advertisers and Big Data.

Since Talk Liberation's inception, it has grown into a multi-national organisation with staff spanning more than a dozen countries. Talk Liberation remains committed to fostering a safer internet environment that is free from censorship, mass surveillance and advertising, while empowering users globally.

As well as developing [Panquake](https://Panquake.com), Talk Liberation is the team behind [WLDragnet.com](https://WLDragnet.com), FREE link shortening and archiving service [pnqk.me](https://pnqk.me) and upcoming digital marketing dashboard [Lnqk Me](https://Lnqk.Me).

## Relevance of Iceland:

There is a long and storied history of banking abuses and protests in Iceland.

Icelandic financial crisis:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2008-2011\\_Icelandic\\_financial\\_crisis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2008-2011_Icelandic_financial_crisis)

Massive Icelandic protests against the banks:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2009\\_Icelandic\\_financial\\_crisis\\_protests](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2009_Icelandic_financial_crisis_protests)

Iceland jailed bankers:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/features/2016-03-31/welcome-to-iceland-where-bad-bankers-go-to-prison>

98% of Icelanders voted against bailing out the banks:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010\\_Icelandic\\_loan\\_guarantees\\_referendum](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2010_Icelandic_loan_guarantees_referendum)

