

La Nacion: News site for vision-impaired

Kudos to [La Nacion newspaper](http://www.lanacion.com.ar/sinbarreras) in Buenos Aires, Argentina, which has launched an entire news site for blind or low-vision users, following accessibility guidelines. The newspaper is calling it "La Nacion Sin Barreras" (La Nacion without frontiers or barriers) and is at:

<http://www.lanacion.com.ar/sinbarreras>. Users can listen to or read the news site -- which includes ALL the newspaper's daily and weekly sections and the news updates as they appear in La Nacion online.

New Media Manager Angelica Peralta Ramos explains how and why La Nacion took this remarkable step (reprinted with permission from Poynter's Online-News list):

"Our initiative came as a consequence of our user requests and a group of blind users was involved in the project testing the site's usability and information architecture.

"The site will benefit:

- People that navigate using screen readers: because there are neither images, animations, nor pop ups.
- People with partially reduced eyesight: because typography is 40% larger and colors have been taken to their maximum contrast to smooth the progress of reading.
- People with photosensitive epilepsy: because animation, videos and flickering light have been avoided.
- People who find it hard to distinguish colors: colors are not used as action indicators.

"Blind users can navigate the site with screen readers or screen browsers such as [IBM Home Page Reader 3.0](#) or [JAWS 4.02](#).

"The site was designed under the [Electronic and Information Technology Accessibility Standards. U.S Section 508 of The Access Board](#) and in compliance with the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 1.0 of the consortium W3C / WAI Web Accessibility Initiative](#). The next stage we will be to apply styles that enable Braille printing....

"I invite any of you who wants to develop or adapt your sites for low-vision or blind users to do it, and can share with you that doing it, you will really FEEL what technology can be capable of in changing people's life quality."

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