WHAT THRESHOLD DOES FOR THOSE WHO BRING CASES

A short note for lawyers, campaigners and regulators. Defined terms are explained in the step-by-step note.

The Threshold Initiative · Concept note for litigators · Draft v1 · November 2026 · In development, not yet incorporated

We grade and preserve evidence that others bring. We do not build cases or gather evidence for them, and we never decide what your case is.

You choose the target, the court and the route. We keep the evidence ready, with its history intact, so that you can rely on it and others can test it.

THE PROBLEM YOU ALREADY KNOW

Before a case can argue anything, someone has to find the evidence, establish where it came from, show it was not altered, and persuade a court it can be relied on. That work is repeated, case by case, at the cost of time, money and the cases that never begin. Sharing between organisations today runs on personal trust, built in person and extended slowly, because nobody can be sure that a source is what it appears to be.

WHAT YOU GET

- **Evidence you can choose from.** A public, searchable Library of graded evidence. Each item shows its source, its history, its grade, and who declared what about their ties to the subject.
- **A chain of custody already written down.** Each record is fingerprinted on arrival, held at two independently governed sites in Geneva and near Reykjavik, and never overwritten. Grades can be revised, with the original left visible.
- **Independent grading.** At least two reviewers, each declaring relationships, under a published standard. The standard describes the evidence, not the case or the court.
- **A box of your own, in design.** For material gathered for a live case: encrypted before it leaves your device, held under a key only you control, never visible to anyone else. Not yet available, and no claim of privilege until counsel advises.
- **The same terms for everyone.** The open Library serves a campaigner and a producer’s counsel alike. No funder influences a grade or holds a key.

WHAT STAYS WITH YOU

Choosing the case. Deciding what to rely on. Presenting it. Whether evidence is admitted is for the court, and rules differ between jurisdictions. A grade tells a court how well the evidence holds up. It does not tell the court what to conclude.

WHAT WE DO NOT DO

We do not litigate, campaign, lobby or enforce. We do not gather evidence for any case, and we do not look inside your sealed material. We take no government money in the core.

WHERE WE ARE, AND WHAT WE NEED FROM YOU

The Initiative is in development. The Library and grading standard are specified; the sealed box is a proposal. We know that disclosure rules in the US and UK, and the rules of each national court, bear on whether any of this helps you. We would like to design it with the people who bring cases, not for them.

Two things would help most. Tell us what would stop you from relying on graded evidence. And tell us who else is bringing cases whom we should learn from. A step-by-step account of how every item is handled is in the companion note, and when the grading pilot begins we would like you to test us on public material, at no risk.

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