

Federal Law #7-FZ of 13 January 1995 on the order of coverage of state bodies in state mass media

Art.1 Scope of this Federal law

The Present Federal law regulates relations emerging in relation to spread of materials or statements on the activities of the RF state bodies and RF subjects by state mass media.

Art.2 RF legislation on the order of coverage of state bodies in state mass media

Legislation on the order of coverage of state bodies' activities by state mass media shall be a part of the RF legislation on mass media.

Art.3 Main terms and concepts

In the sense of the present Federal law shall be understood:

- Federal state bodies – the RF President, the Federal Assembly (the Council of Federation and the State Duma), the RF Government, the RF Constitutional Court, the RF Supreme Court, the RF Supreme Arbitration Court.
- RF subjects state bodies – legislative (representative) and executive state bodies of republics, krais, regions, cities of federal importance, autonomous regions and autonomous districts.
- State federal mass media – a mass media the founders of which are a federal state body.
- State regional mass media – a mass media the founders of which are federal state bodies jointly with RF subjects state bodies or solely RF subjects state bodies.
- Information broadcasts – daily television and radio news broadcasts, at the exception of information and analytical broadcasts which express their authors' opinions.

Art.4 Audio and video recording of the work of the federal state bodies

Press offices of the federal state bodies conduct audio and video recording of all official events with participation of the RF President, meetings of the Council of Federation and the State Duma, the RF Government and its bureau. These records shall be stored perpetually. Records of closed events are carried out and stored in accordance with the requirements of the RF legislation.

Mass media journalists shall be entitled to get acquainted with records and make copies except for records of the closed events.

There shall be no requirement to make a reference to a relevant press office while using records in television and radio broadcasts.

The present article shall not restrict the right of accredited journalists to carry out its own audio and video record during sessions, meetings and other open to public events.

Art.5 Obligatory television and radio broadcasts

State federal audiovisual mass media shall be obliged to spread the following television and radio broadcasts in full not less than through one Russian TV channel and one Russian radio channel during convenient time for television and radio audience but not later than 24 hours from the moment of committing the following events:

Addresses and statements of the RF President, the Council of Federation and the State Duma, the RF Government broadcasting of which is stipulated by relevant federal state bodies;

Official ceremony of inauguration of the RF President;

Opening of the 1st sitting of the Council of Federation;

Opening of the 1st sitting of the State Duma;

Opening of the 1st meeting of a new RF Government.

Art.6 Information broadcasts

State audiovisual mass media include in information broadcasts during the day when a corresponding event has taken place, statements on decisions and actions of:

the RF President stipulated in art. 83 (a, b, d), 84 (a, b, c, e), 87 (2), 88, 108(2), 111 (3,4) of the RF Constitution;

the Council of Federation stipulated in art.93 and 102 (1) (a, b, c, g, d, e) of the RF Constitution;

the State Duma stipulated in art.103 (1) (a, b, e, j) of the RF Constitution;

State federal audiovisual mass media include in information broadcasts during the day when a corresponding event or statement has taken place of:

Decisions and actions of the RF President stipulated in art.83 (g, e, j) of the RF Constitution,

Decisions and actions of the RF Constitutional Court stipulated in art. 125 (2,3,4,7) of the RF Constitution,

Decisions and actions of the Council of Federation stipulated in art.102 (1) (j,a, i), art.105 (4) of the RF Constitution,

Decisions and actions of the State Duma stipulated in art.103 (1)(b,g,d), art.105 (1,5) of the RF Constitution,

Declarations and statements of the RF President, the Council of Federation and the State Duma, the RF Government,

Presentations of the RF Prime Minister at the sessions of the Council of Federation and the State Duma,

Press-conferences of the RF President, the RF Prime Minister, Chairman of the Council of Federation, Chairman of the State Duma,

Other publicly important facts of the federal state bodies' activities.

State federal audiovisual mass media shall be obliged to ensure immediate information sharing of television and radio audience on official visits of heads of foreign states or governments to the RF as well as

on official visits abroad of the RF President, the RF Prime Minister, delegations of the Council of Federation, the State Duma and the RF Government.

Art.7 Declared void

Art.8 Requirements for information and educational broadcasts

As a rule, in information broadcasts of state audiovisual mass media messages on the work of the RF President, sittings of the Council of Federation and the State Duma, the RF Government, Bureau of the RF Government are broadcasted in a separate package.

Messages on the meetings of the Council of Federation and the State Duma, the RF Government or its Bureau shall be accompanied by a video sequence of the sitting if a picture shot has been technically prepared to transmission for air time.

Art.9 Declared void

Art.10 Declared void

Art.11 Other television and radio broadcasts on the work of the federal state bodies

State audiovisual mass media when forming broadcasts' politics shall stipulate in other journalistic, information and analytical broadcasts a comprehensive and objective information sharing of television and radio audience on the work of the federal state bodies, basic principles of state organization of the RF, main directions of domestic and foreign state policy, activities of the RF President, the action plan of the RF Government, positions of deputies' associations in the State Duma, deputies of the Council of Federation and the State Duma, settling cases and disputes by courts.

State bodies and state officials shall be entitled to initiate spread of such broadcasts in accordance with legislation on television and radio broadcasting.

Art.12 Professional assistance to speakers

State audiovisual mass media shall ensure in their broadcast in any broadcasts necessary professional assistance including preparation of air broadcasting and technical assistance for a speaker the RF President, a deputy of the Council of Federation, a deputy of the State Duma, the RF Prime Minister, the RF Vice Prime Minister or a federal minister.

Art.13 Declared void

Art.14 Control on respect of requirements of the RF legislation on the order of coverage of state bodies in state mass media

Control on respect of requirements of the RF legislation on the order of coverage of the work of state bodies in state mass media by state bodies and state audiovisual mass media shall be carried out by the Federal television broadcasting commission in accordance with federal laws.

The Federal television broadcasting commission shall carry out supervising functions in respect to state audiovisual mass media exclusively through analysis of records of television and radio broadcasts after they have been aired.

Art.15 Challenging illegal actions

Actions violating the order of coverage of state bodies established by the present Federal law in state mass media shall be challenged.

Art.16 Responsibility for the violation of this Federal Law

Persons guilty in violation of the present Federal law will take administrative or other responsibility in accordance with the RF legislation.

Art.17 Settlement of disputes

Disputes appeared from violation of the established order of coverage of the activities of state bodies in state mass media shall be settled by court, other state bodies in accordance with their competence and the order established by law.

Art.18 Entry into force of the present Federal law

The present Federal law shall enter into force from the day of its official publication.

Art.19 Suggestion to the RF President and Instruction to the RF Government in relation to adoption of the present Federal law

To suggest the RF President to bring his legal acts in compliance with the present Federal law.

To suggest the RF Government in relation to adoption of the present Federal law to bring its legal acts in compliance with the present Federal law.