

LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

On Television and Radio Broadcasting

This Law defines the legal, economic and organizational bases of television and radio activities aimed at ensuring the freedom of information, opinion and speech, and the right to open and free discussion for everyone.

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Chapter V

ORGANIZATION OF TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTING

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Article 35. Dissemination of advertising

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35.10. Advertising narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances, weapons, pornography, tobacco products, other products for which advertising is prohibited under the legislation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as alcoholic beverages from 7:00 to 23:00 hours is prohibited on television and radio. [\[31\]](#)

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Chapter VI

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF BROADCASTERS

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Article 40. Right and Obligations of Broadcasters

40.1. Television and radio broadcasters, regardless of their ownership and organizational-legal form, are entitled to the following:

40.1.1. develop and broadcast programs (broadcasts), and reproduce, sell or rent their audio and video recordings;

40.1.2. set their fees;

40.1.3. engage in advertising activities;

40.1.4. publish the program of their broadcasts or transfer this right to a third party;

40.1.5. engage in other activities that are necessary for the performance of their statutory duties and not prohibited by law.

40.2. Television and radio broadcasters shall:

40.2.1. ensure the diversity of programs (broadcasts);

40.2.2. not distribute pornographic materials;

40.2.2-1. *neither demonstrate tobacco products and the process of tobacco use, nor broadcast works, performances, programs demonstrating tobacco products and the process of tobacco use on air or by cable broadcasting;* ^[40]

40.2.2-2. *not disseminate information products in the country without ensuring the classification of information products by age in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Protection of Children from Harmful Information, including marking the information product in accordance with the relevant age category, except as provided by this Law;* ^[41]

40.2.3. not impede the broadcasting and reception of programs of other television and radio broadcasters;

40.2.4. respect people's personal and family life, business reputation, honor and dignity; ^[42]

40.2.5. follow professional ethics during broadcasting;

40.2.6. respect the subscribers' right of reply;

40.2.7. submit copies of control phonograms in the manner and within the period established by the relevant state authority;

40.2.8. create conditions for everyone to freely express their views and opinions;

40.2.9. ensure the impartiality and neutrality of information;

40.2.10. perform other obligations stipulated under this Law.

40.3. *Television and radio broadcasters shall develop informational, enlightening and educational programs on the negative effects of tobacco use and other harmful habits with the support of relevant executive authorities, scientific institutions and non-governmental organizations and allocate no less than 90 minutes of airtime per month for this purpose in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on the Restriction of the Use of Tobacco Products. These programs are broadcast from 08:00 to 23:00 hours (45 minutes of which are broadcast from 17:30 to 23:00 hours), and copies of the programs are submitted to the National Television and Radio Council every month.* ^[43]

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Chapter VII

LIABILITY FOR VIOLATION OF LEGISLATION ON TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTING

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Article 44. Entry into Force of the Law

This Law shall enter into force on the day of its publication.

Heydar ALIYEV,
President of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Baku, June 25, 2002
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