

MEDIA AND DIGITAL RIGHTS REGULATION IN UKRAINE

Digest #24 – June 2025

DSLU monthly digest on media and digital rights regulation in Ukraine provides an overview of the proposed and adopted legislation in the spheres of freedom of expression, media regulation, privacy and data protection, Internet regulation in general, and the activities of the National Council on Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine (hereinafter – NBC) in the area of Media Law implementation.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND MEDIA REGULATION

On 12 June, after nearly eight months of delay, the **President of Ukraine** [finally signed](#) the **Draft Law [#11153](#) amending the rules on journalists' work trips to the emergency area**. The law will enter into force on 14 July and shift the burden of providing insurance to journalists working in the warzone to the media they represent.

On 3 June, the Parliamentary Committee on Legal Policy reconsidered **Draft Law [#11533](#) on Specifics of Providing Information from Public Electronic Registers**, analysed in the [March](#) digest. The **draft suggests several restrictions on access to information on defence enterprises** contained in public registries during martial law and one year after its cessation. Its legislative process is rather slow [due to public criticism](#), but its new text is now recommended for adoption in the first reading.

On 16 June, the Parliament withdrew **Draft Law [#13001](#) on Strengthening the Prevention and Counteraction of Antisemitism**, analysed in [February](#). This decision might be related to the newly registered draft laws ([#13366](#) and [#13366-1](#)), which suggest the appointment of a special coordinator for the prevention and counteraction of antisemitism among governmental agencies.

On 18 June, [Draft Law #13384](#) was submitted to the Parliament. It proposes the **rearrangement of the Criminal Code of Ukraine provision on insult and defamation of the military servicepeople from the section on military crimes, where the potential subjects of crime are the military, to the section on specially protected categories of persons**. If adopted in its current version, this draft's provisions can worsen the situation with the freedom of expression by extending the applicability of its provisions, which de facto criminalise one type of defamation, to a wider circle of potential violators. The draft is currently being examined by the Parliamentary Committee on Law Enforcement Activities.

There was no progress on other drafts described in the [previous digests](#), including [Draft Law #7033-d](#) on the prevention of disclosure of certain information in the texts of court decisions, Draft Law [#12111](#) on Amendments to Certain Laws of Ukraine on Media Activities, Draft Law [#12191](#), decriminalising the dissemination of pornography, Draft Law [#12253](#), which improves the legal provisions of the [Law on Advertising](#), Draft Law [#13150](#) on Ensuring Legality in the Activities of Local Self-Government Bodies and Officials, and two draft laws regarding the activities of the Antimonopoly Committee of Ukraine ([#12440](#) and [#12440-1](#)). Draft Law [#11321](#) on improving journalists' access to official events and Draft Law [#5870-d](#) on conditional access to media services are still awaiting the President's signature.

PRIVACY AND DATA PROTECTION

Draft Law [#13181](#) on the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, analysed in [April](#), was recommended for adoption in the first reading by the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, Deoccupation and Reintegration of the Temporarily Occupied Territories, National Minorities and Inter-Ethnic Relations on 26 June. Its provisions strengthen the Ombudsman's legal powers as a current personal data protection regulator, granting full access to restricted information and state secrets of all security levels.

No progress was made on [previously analysed documents](#), such as the drafts on [a unified system of public security video monitoring](#), [the criminalisation of electronic communication fraud](#), and [counterintelligence activities](#). Draft Law [#12349](#) on the Cyber Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, described in the [March digest](#), did not undergo any legislative steps. Draft Law [#8153](#) on Personal Data Protection is still being prepared for the second reading.

INTERNET REGULATION

On 3 June, **Draft Law #12406**, analysed in the [January](#) digest, **was adopted in the first reading by the Parliament**. The draft introduces amendments to the [Criminal Code of Ukraine](#) by establishing criminal liability for entities breaching sanctions. Currently, the draft is being prepared for the second reading by the Parliamentary Committee on Law Enforcement Activities. In its current version, it does not provide liability for accessing websites blocked under the sanction orders.

No legislative steps were taken regarding other submitted initiatives, namely [Draft Law #11115](#) on Regulation of Information-Sharing Platforms That Disseminate Mass Information (analysed in the [March 2024 digest](#)), Draft Law [#13311](#) imposing liability for adopting unlawful decisions while applying sanctions, and three sanctions-related drafts ([#11492](#), and [#11492-1](#), and [#12406](#)).

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTING OF UKRAINE

On 12 June, the NBC **expanded the [List of Persons Threatening National Security](#)** by including Azamat Musagaliev, the Russian actor, comedian, and TV presenter who conducted systematic propaganda activities and visited the occupied territories of Ukraine.

On the same day, the media regulator adopted [the Calendar Plan for Preparing and Holding CSO Conferences to Elect the Supervisory Board Members for the Public Service Media \(JSC PBCU\)](#). This procedure will renew the Supervisory Board's composition by the end of February 2026, being a crucial step towards ensuring public service media independence in Ukraine.

The NBC continued advancing its co-regulating efforts. On 4 June, the **NBC [announced a call for experts](#)** to develop codes on the creation and dissemination of information related to content harmful to minors, harmful commercials, and other spheres for the co-regulatory body in the sphere of print media.

Digital Security Lab Ukraine is a non-government organisation aiming to create a human-rights-centered digital environment in Ukraine. We work toward achieving this goal by providing digital security support for high-risk Ukrainian human rights and media organisations and contributing to policy development in the field of human rights on the Internet through conducting legal monitoring, research and analysis, advocacy, and awareness-raising campaigns.

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