

MEDIA AND DIGITAL RIGHTS REGULATION IN UKRAINE

Digest #32 - February 2026

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.

EVENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

On 18 February, during the [public discussion](#), **DSLU presented its analytical report "Regulators of digital change: analysis of the EU experience for Ukraine"**. The report contains the analysis of the regulators' status and organisational structure in the spheres of data protection, media, digital services, and AI at the level of the EU Member States. Additionally, alternative models (for example, creation of the unified regulator) were assessed. Potential time limits and deadlines for establishing the regulatory body were discussed. The discussion involved both media experts and public-sector representatives.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND MEDIA REGULATION

On 27 January, **the Parliamentary Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy [announced](#) the creation of a working group to draft legislation to implement the EMFA**. The group, co-coordinated by DSLU, is further organised into thematic sub-groups, among which are the protection of journalistic sources, the guarantees of the public media service and the functioning of the media regulator, the transparency of political advertisement, the introduction of regulatory novelties, and regulatory powers in the media sphere. Its active work shall commence in March 2026.

There was no progress on 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 [#13457](#) which introduces criminal liability for facilitating fraud through the dissemination of information, Draft Law [#13597](#) on combating discrimination, two draft laws on accelerated consideration of EU integration-related drafts ([#13653](#) and [#13653-1](#)), two draft laws criminalising the insult of military personnel ([#13384](#) and [#13384-1](#)), and draft law [#14202](#) on accessibility of media services for people with disabilities. There was no progress on Draft Law [#14372](#), analysed in the [January digest](#).

Draft Law [#5870-d](#) on conditional access to media services and Draft Law [#12320](#) on safeguarding the barristers' activities are still awaiting the President's signature.

PRIVACY AND DATA PROTECTION

On 6 February, **Draft Laws [#14394-1](#) and [#14394-2](#), which contain the new draft [Civil Code of Ukraine](#) (the Code of Private Law)**, were registered in the Parliament. As an alternative to [Draft Law #14394](#), the draft laws aim to improve the provisions by incorporating concerns raised in the initial draft presented by human rights experts. This is the fifth legislative attempt at recodifying the civil law sphere. Both draft laws are being **processed by the Parliamentary Committee on Legal Policy**.

No progress was made on other [previously analysed documents](#), such as the draft laws on [the criminalisation of electronic communication fraud](#), [counterintelligence activities](#), Draft Law [#13181](#) on the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Draft Law [#8153](#) on Personal Data Protection, and Draft Law [#14118](#) on third parties' access to public electronic registers. Draft Law [#14394](#) of the [Civil Code of Ukraine](#) (the Code of Private Law) is still being processed by the Parliamentary Committee on Legal Policy.

INTERNET REGULATION

No legislative steps were taken regarding earlier 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, Draft Law [#14150](#) on Public-Private Interaction in the Field of Cybersecurity, Draft Law [#13505](#) on the Prohibition of Use and Distribution of Hostile Software Products and Hostile Information Technology, Draft Law [#14197](#) strengthening enforcement powers in the sphere of electronic communications, and two sanctions-related drafts ([#11492-1](#) and [#12406](#)). Draft Law [#14278](#) and Draft Law [#14278-1](#) on digital accessibility, as well as Draft Law [#12349](#) on the Cyber Forces of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, analysed in the [previous digest](#), remained unchanged in status.

NATIONAL COUNCIL ON TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTING OF UKRAINE

In February, the **NBC completed the second stage for electing Suspilne's Supervisory Board members in the relevant spheres**. In addition to the already elected members, described in the previous digest, seven representatives from the parliamentary factions and public (Mykhailo Andriiev, Kateryna Batenko, Zoya Kazanzhi, Maksym Krechetov, Lavrentii Malazonii, Svitlana Ostapa, and Andrii Shapovalov) [were selected](#). The term of office of the newly elected members constitutes 5 years.

Due to the ongoing process, the **NBC [has also approved](#) the composition of the Public Commission to evaluate documents submitted by public associations and groups in the fields of physical education and sports and human rights**. These conferences for electing members of Suspilne's Supervisory Board will be held by the NBC this year.

On 17 February, **the NBC [published the annual report on Suspilne's activities for 2025](#)**. The report reflects the public service media's biggest challenges, main achievements, and upcoming reforms in the media sphere. On the same day, **the NBC [approved its own 2025 report](#)**, which will be submitted to the Parliament for approval. As part of this, the media regulator published [statistics on the enforcement measures applied in 2025](#).

Digital Security Lab Ukraine is a non-governmental organisation aiming to create a human-rights-centered digital environment in Ukraine. We work towards achieving this goal by providing digital security support to 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, analysis, advocacy, and awareness-raising campaigns.

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