

## NOTE FOR THE READER

The English text of the Radio and Television Broadcasters Law of 1998 to (No. 2) of 2021 is an unofficial translation of the Greek text (up to amendment 197(I)/2021) and is provided for convenience only.

It is emphasized that the English translation of the Law does not replace the original text of the Law since only the Greek text of the Law published in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Cyprus is authentic.

The CRTA shall not be under any liability to any person or organisation in respect of any loss or damage, including consequential loss or damage, however caused, which may be incurred or arises directly or indirectly from reliance on information in this publication.

**The Radio and Television Broadcasters Law of 1998 to 2021 is issued upon publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Cyprus pursuant to Section 52 of the Constitution.**

**Number 7 (I) of 1998**

**LAW CONSOLIDATING AND REVIEWING THE LAWS REGULATING THE ESTABLISHMENT, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF RADIO AND TELEVISION BROADCASTERS**

The House of Representatives enacts as follows:

Short title. 1. This Law shall be cited as the Radio and Television Broadcasters Laws of 1998 to (No.2) of 2021.

88(I)/98  
13(I)/99  
159(I)/99  
23(I)/2000  
55(I)/2000  
134(I)/2000  
18(I)/2001  
53(I)/2001  
65(I)/2001  
78(I)/2001  
126(I)/2001  
102(I)/2002  
186(I)/2002  
24(I)/2003  
97(I)/2004  
84(I)/2006  
85(I)/2006  
170(I)/2006  
117(I)/2008  
17(I)/2009  
136(I)/2009  
118(I)/2010  
73(I)/2011  
88(I)/2012  
46(I)/2013  
86(I)/2014  
94(I)/2015  
201(I)/2015  
77(I)/2016  
81(I)/2017  
64(I)/2018  
53(I)/2019  
92(I)/2019  
75(I)/2020  
174(I)/2020  
74(I)/2021  
197(I)/2021

**PART I —INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS**

Interpretation. 2. In this Law—

2 of ‘licence” means the licence to establish, install and operate a media service provider;  
118(I)/2010

2 of 118(I)/2010 “licensed broadcaster” means any type of television or radio broadcaster, media service provider licensed under this Law;

2 of 118(I)/2010 “licensed station” (*Deleted*).

2 of 78(I)/2001 “alien” means a natural person who is not a national of the Republic or of a Member State of the European Union as well as a legal person that has been registered and obtained a legal personality in a State other than the Republic or in a Member State of the European Union;

2 of 201(I)/2015 “minor” means a person under the age of eighteen (18) years;

2 of 24(I)/2003. “negative advertising” means an announcement or a message of any kind broadcast in return for payment or a corresponding consideration and aimed at the undocumented unfavourable promotion of an opponent or party;

“Authority” means the independent Cyprus Radiotelevision Authority established under section 3;

2 of 197(I)/2021 “user-generated videos” means a set of moving images, with or without sound, constituting an individual item, irrespective of its length, created by a user and uploaded on a video-sharing platform by the same or any other user.

2 of 23(I)/2000 “advertising” means any form of announcement broadcast in return for payment or a corresponding consideration or for purposes of self-promotion by a public or private undertaking in the context of a commercial, industrial or craft activity or profession, with the aim of promoting the provision of goods or services, including immovable property, rights and obligations in return for payment;

2 of 118(I)/2010 “free television broadcaster” includes a television broadcaster providing audiovisual media services to at least 75% of the population in total with free reception, as well as a television broadcaster of encoded broadcasts only regarding its programme broadcast in unencoded form;

2 of 118(I)/2010 “free television station” (*Deleted*).

2 of 197(I)/2021 “Commission” means the European Commission;

“committee” means the Radiotelevision Advisory Committee established under section 11;

2 of  
118(I)/2010

“Journalistic Ethics Commission (Cyprus Media Complaints Commission)” means the Commission established under the Journalists’ Code of Practice approved by the Establishment Act of the Cyprus Union of Journalists and the Owners of Electronic Mass Communication Media of the 21<sup>st</sup> May 1997 and endorsed by the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation;

2 of  
197(I)/2021

“contact committee” means the committee established under article 29 of the Directive 2010/13/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 10 March 2010 on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services (Audiovisual Media Services Directive);

2 of  
117(I)/2008

“European Convention on Transfrontier Television” means the European Convention on Transfrontier Television made in Strasbourg on the 5<sup>th</sup> May 1989 and ratified by the Republic with the Law Ratifying the European Convention on Transfrontier Television of 1991, and the Amending Protocol thereof made in Strasbourg on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 1998 and ratified by the Republic with the Protocol amending the European Convention on Transfrontier Television (Ratifying) Law of 1999;

2 of  
197(I)/2021

“European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services” means the group of European regulatory authorities or bodies in the field of audiovisual media services, established under article 30b of the Directive 2018/1808/EU, hereinafter referred to as “ERGA”;

2 of  
118(I)/2010

“thematic station” (*Deleted*).

2 of  
118(I)/2010

“thematic television or radio broadcaster” means a television or radio broadcaster offering a special programme of a specified type;

2 of  
117(I)/2008

“position implying direct or indirect participation in the exercise of public power and the safeguarding of the general interests of the State” means a position set out as such by a Council of Ministers’ Decree, following the submission thereto of a list of such positions by the Authority, which is drawn up by a competent committee established by the Authority to this end;

2 of 97(I)/2004 “Regulations” means Regulations issued pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1) of section 51;

2 of 118(I)/2010 “on-demand audiovisual media service” (i.e. non-linear audiovisual media service) means the audiovisual media service provided by a media service provider for the viewing of programmes at the moment chosen by the user and at his individual request on the basis of a list of programmes selected by the media service provider;

“Member State” means a Member State of the European Union;

2 of 97(I)/2004 “broadcasting” means the first/initial transmission of a radio or television programme intended for public reception, by wireless means or not, directly or by satellite, encoded or not, and includes the communication of programmes between undertakings with a view to their retransmission to the public. The term does not include communication services providing information or other services on individual demand, such as facsimile services, electronic data banks and other related services;

2 of 118(I)/2010 “small local radio broadcaster” means a radio broadcaster designed to cover a relatively small community or area and which operates with limited power and in a prescribed frequency range;

2 of 118(I)/2010 “small local station” (*Deleted*).

2 of 118(I)/2010 Journal of the EU: L95, 15.4.2010, p.1 “Directive 2010/13/EU” means Directive 2010/13/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2010 on the coordination of certain legal, regulatory or administrative provisions in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services, as amended or replaced at the time;

2 of 197(I)/2021 Journal of the EU: L303/69, 28.11.2018, p.1 “Directive 2018/1808/EU” means Directive 2018/1808/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 November 2018 on the coordination of certain provisions laid down by law, regulation or administrative action in Member States concerning the provision of audiovisual media services (Audiovisual Media Services Directive) in view of changing market realities, as amended or replaced;

2 of 118(I)/2010 “audiovisual commercial communication” means images with or without sound which are designed to promote, directly or indirectly, the goods, services or image of a natural or legal person pursuing an economic activity. Such images accompany or are included in a programme or user-generated video in return for payment or for a similar

2 of 197(I)/2021

consideration or for self-promotional purposes. Forms of audiovisual commercial communication include, inter alia, television advertising, sponsorship, teleshopping and product placement;

2 of  
118(I)/2010 “national radio broadcaster” means a radio broadcaster designed to cover over 75% of the population of the areas of the Republic where the Government exercises effective control;

2 of  
118(I)/2010 national station” or “network” (*Deleted*).

2 of  
118(I)/2010  
2 of  
197(I)/2021 ‘national television broadcaster” (*Deleted*).

2 of  
197(I)/2021 “teleshopping window” means the period of time for broadcasting television advertising spots or teleshopping spots clearly identified as such by optical or and acoustic means of start and finish;

2 of  
197(I)/2021 “video-sharing platform provider” means the natural or legal person providing a video-sharing platform service.

2 of  
118(I)/2010 “media service provider” means the natural or legal person who has the editorial responsibility for the choice of the audiovisual content of the audiovisual media service and determines the manner in which this is organised;

3 of  
85(I)/2006  
2 of  
118(I)/2010 “political advertising” means an announcement or message of any kind broadcast in return for payment or for a similar consideration by a candidate pursuant to section 34D in presidential or parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament or any other elections;

2 of  
118(I)/2010  
2 of  
197(I)/2021 “programme” means a set of moving images, with or without sound, constituting an individual item, irrespective of its length, within a schedule or a catalogue established by a media service provider, including feature-length films, video clips, sports events, comedies, documentaries, children’s programmes and original drama;

2 of  
118(I)/2010 “radio advertising” means any form of radio announcement broadcast in return for payment or for a similar consideration or for purposes of self-promotion by a public or private undertaking or a natural person in the context of a commercial, industrial or craft

activity or profession, with the aim of promoting the provision of goods or services, including immovable property, rights and obligations in return for payment;

2 of 118(I)/2010 “radio broadcasting” or “radio broadcast” (i.e. a linear audiovisual media service) means a radio audiovisual media service provided by a media service provider for simultaneous viewing of programmes on the basis of a programme schedule;

2 of 118(I)/2010 “radio broadcaster” means a media service provider of radio broadcasts;

2 of 97(I)/2004  
2 of 118(I)/2010 “radio station” (*Deleted*).

2 of 23(I)/2000  
2 of 97(I)/2004  
2 of 118(I)/2010 “station” (*Deleted*).

2 of 118(I)/2010 “encoded broadcast station” (*Deleted*).

2 of 174(I)/2020 «bet» has the meaning given by the term used in section 2 of the Law on Bet 37(I) of 2019.

2 of 118(I)/2010 “surreptitious advertising” (*Deleted*).

2 of 118(I)/2010  
2 of 197(I)/2021 “surreptitious audiovisual commercial communication” means the representation in words or pictures of goods, services, the name, the trade mark or the activities of a producer of goods or a provider of services in programmes when such representation is intended by the media service provider to serve as advertising and might mislead the public as to its nature. Such representation shall, in particular, be considered as intentional if it is done in return for payment or for a similar consideration;

2 of 118(I)/2010  
2 of 197(I)/2021 “related service” means every service pertaining to the transmission of telecommunication signals by radio transmission, with the use of free capacity within the carrying signals, and every radio or television service offered at a frequency specified by

the Director of the Department of Electronic Communications of Cyprus' Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy:

Provided that, for television broadcasters, subtitling and teletext are not considered related services;

2 of  
197(I)/2021 “editorial decision” means a decision which is taken on a regular basis for the purpose of exercising editorial responsibility and linked to the day-to-day operation of the audiovisual media service;

2 of  
118(I)/2010 “editorial responsibility” means the exercise of effective control both over the selection of the programmes and over their organisation either in a chronological schedule, in the case of television broadcasts, or in the form of a catalogue, in the case of on-demand audiovisual media services;

2 of  
97(I)/2004  
2 of  
118(I)/2010 “telemarketing” (*Deleted*).

2 of  
118(I)/2010 “television advertising” means any form of announcement broadcast in return for payment or for a similar consideration or broadcast for purposes of self-promotion by a public or private undertaking or a natural person in connection with a trade, business, craft or profession with the aim of promoting the provision of goods or services, including immovable property, rights and obligations, in return for payment;

2 of  
118(I)/2010 “television broadcasting” or “television broadcast” (i.e. a linear audiovisual media service) means a television audiovisual media service provided by a media service provider for simultaneous viewing of programmes on the basis of a programme schedule;

2 of  
118(I)/2010 “television broadcaster” means a media service provider of television broadcasts;

2 of  
118(I)/2010  
2 of  
197(I)/2021 “television broadcaster of encoded broadcasts” or “pay television broadcaster” means a television broadcaster transmitting or retransmitting via a pay television service, irrespective of the technical method or transmission medium, of which at least 75% of its broadcasts is, on an annual basis, transmitted in an encoded form;

2 of  
97(I)/2004  
2 of  
118(I)/2010 “television station” (*Deleted*).



- 2 of 118(I)/2010  
2 of 197(I)/2021 “teleshopping” means the direct offers broadcast to the public with a view to providing goods or services in return for payment, including immovable property, rights and obligations;
- 2 of 118(I)/2010 “local radio broadcaster” means a radio broadcaster covering a relatively small area, not bigger than a district, and operating with limited power and in a prescribed frequency range, and having a significant part of its programmes covering subjects of local interest;
- 2 of 97(I)/2004  
2 of 118(I)/2010 “local station” *(Deleted)*.
- 2 of 97(I)/2004  
2 of 118(I)/2010 “local broadcaster” *(Deleted)*.
- 2 of 118(I)/2010  
2 of 197(I)/2021 “local television broadcaster” *(Deleted)*.
- 2 of 118(I)/2010  
2 of 197(I)/2021 “product placement” means any form of audiovisual commercial communication consisting of the presentation of or reference to, a product, service or the respective trade mark thereof so that it is featured within a programme or a user-generated video, in return for payment or for a similar consideration;
- 2 of 97(I)/2004  
2 of 118(I)/2010 “third country” means a country that is not a Member State or has not ratified the European Convention on Transfrontier Television;
- 2 of 174(I) of 2020 «game of chance» has the meaning given by the term used in section 2 of the Law on Betting. 37(I) of 2019
- 2 of 118(I)/2010  
2 of 197(I)/2021 “audiovisual media service” means-
- (a) a service, as defined by Articles 56 and 57 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, which is under the editorial responsibility of a media service provider and the principal purpose of which or of a dissociable section thereof is the provision of programmes, in order to inform, entertain or educate the general public by electronic communications networks. Such audiovisual media services can be either television broadcasts, radio broadcasts, or on-demand audiovisual media services;
- (b) audiovisual commercial communications.

2 of  
197(I)/2021

“video-sharing platform service” means a service as defined by Articles 56 and 57 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, where the principal purpose of the service or of a dissociable section thereof or an essential functionality of the service is devoted to providing programmes, user-generated videos, or both, to the general public, for which the video-sharing platform provider does not have editorial responsibility, in order to inform, entertain or educate, by means of electronic communications networks and the organisation of which is determined by the video-sharing platform provider, including by automatic means or algorithms in particular by displaying, tagging and sequencing;

“Minister” means the Minister of the Interior;

2 of  
23(I)/2000  
2 of  
118(I)/2010  
2 of  
197(I)/2021

“sponsorship” means any contribution made by a public or private undertaking or a natural person not engaged in providing audiovisual media services or video-sharing platform services or in the production of audiovisual works, to the financing of audiovisual media services, video-sharing platform services, user-generated videos or programmes with a view to promoting the name, trade mark, image, activities or products of the aforesaid undertaking or person;

2 of  
118(I)/2010

“teleshopping window” (*Deleted*).

2 of  
197(I)/2021

“window or teleshopping window” [Replaced by the term and definition of “teleshopping window”].

words importing the masculine gender include the feminine, and words in the singular include the plural, and words in the plural include the singular, unless there is something in the subject or context that is inconsistent with such construction or unless it is therein otherwise expressly provided.

3 of  
197(I)/2021

## PART II — ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF THE CYPRUS RADIOTELEVISION AUTHORITY

Cyprus  
Radiotele-  
vision  
Authority.

3.—(1) An independent Authority called the “Cyprus Radiotelevision Authority” is hereby established as the national regulatory authority.

3 of  
118(I)/2010  
4 of  
197(I)/2021

(2) The Authority shall have the following responsibilities:

- (a) to grant, revoke, renew and amend licences with a view to serving the public interest;
- 4 of 197(I)/2021 (b) to issue circulars, instructions and recommendations for the observance of the principles of the Journalists' Code of Practice and the Code of Practice for Advertisements, teleshopping messages and sponsored programmes as set out in Regulations with which all television and radio broadcasters must comply;
- (c) to examine of its own motion or following requests, matters relating to the observance of the principles set out in section 26 as well as violations pertaining to the application of sections 29 and 30;
- (d) to monitor international developments in the audiovisual media services' sector and to submit suggestions to the Council of Ministers for the improvement, modernization and upgrading of the relevant legislation;
- (e) to control the actual ownership structure of the media service providers with a view to ensuring their independence as well as the elimination of trends, actions or pursuits aimed at their concentration, oligopoly or monopoly;
- (f) to ensure the journalistic and creative independence of the employees of a media service provider and to prevent interference with, interventions to and influence of the work of, the journalist and creator;
- (g) to impose administrative sanctions to media service providers pursuant to the provisions of PART XIA of this Law;
- (h) to draw up a report every three years on the development of pluralism and the concentration of shares in media service providers, which it shall submit to the Council of Ministers and the House of Representatives, a summary of which shall be published in at least two daily newspapers;
- (i) to exercise the powers and carry out the duties vested in it by this Law and the Regulations issued thereunder;
- (j) to deal with matters pertaining to the better implementation of the legislation governing media service providers and submit relevant suggestions;

- (k) to exercise control regarding the observance by media service providers that fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic, pursuant to the provisions of section 3A, of the provisions of this Law and the Regulations issued thereunder, as well as of circulars, instructions or recommendations issued thereby pursuant to paragraph (b) of this subsection;
- (l) to exercise control regarding the observance by media service providers that do not fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic, of the provisions of PART IX of this Law which govern matters of jurisdiction regarding transfrontier broadcasts;
- (m) to exercise the powers and carry out the duties assigned thereto under any other special law concerning the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation or assigned thereto under international conventions concluded by the Republic and pertain to the wide sector of audiovisual media services;
- 4 of 197(I)/2021 (n) to collaborate with the respective national regulatory authorities or bodies of other Member States, the Commission and ERGA to exchange the information required for implementing this Law;
- 4 of 197(I)/2021 (o) to issue circulars, instructions and recommendations to comply with the provisions set out in Part IXA, with which video-sharing platform services are required to comply with;
- 4 of 197(I)/2021 (p) to exercise control over the video-sharing platform providers who, pursuant to the provisions of section 32E, are under the jurisdiction of the Republic, to make sure they comply with the provisions set out in Part IXA, of this Law and the Regulations issued thereunder, as well as with the provisions set out in circulars, instructions or recommendations issued by it under paragraph (o) of this section;
- 4 of 197(I)/2021 (q) to examine, of its own motion or following requests, issues regarding violations in the implementation of Part IXA;
- 4 of 197(I)/2021 (r) to impose administrative sanctions to the video-sharing platform providers, in accordance with the provisions of section 32Z.
- 4 of 197(I)/2021 (s) to submit an annual report of actions taken to the President of the House of Representatives, which is filed to the Parliamentary Committee on Internal Affairs for briefing.

(3) The Authority may —

- (a) bring and defend actions;
- (b) acquire, subject to the provisions of this Law, by purchase, lease, exchange, donation or otherwise, movable or immovable property, in order to fulfil its objectives;
- (c) subject to the provisions of this Law, sell, exchange, donate, lease, assign or otherwise dispose of any movable or immovable property and mortgage or encumber its property in order to fulfil its objectives;
- (d) carry out all actions required for the fulfilment of its objectives under this Law or which contributes to the fulfilment of its objectives.

3 of  
118(I)/2010

(4) The Authority may employ for a fee experts or other competent persons in order to advise it on issues of their competence, including matters of ethics of television or radio broadcasters and to establish committees to this end.

Obligation  
of radio and  
television  
broadcasters  
within the  
jurisdiction  
of the  
Republic to  
observe the  
legislation.

3A.—(1) The Authority shall exercise control so that all audiovisual media services transmitted by media service providers that are under the jurisdiction of the Republic observe the provisions of this Law as well as the provisions of the Regulations issued thereunder.

(2) For the purposes of this Law, media service providers that are under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall mean —

4 of  
118(I)/2010  
5 of  
197(I)/2021

- (a) those established in the Republic pursuant to the provisions of subsection (3), or
- (b) those to which the provisions of subsection (4) apply.

(3) For the purposes of this Law, a media service provider shall be deemed to be established in the Republic in the following cases:

- (a) when they have their head office in the Republic and the editorial decisions for the audiovisual media services are taken in the Republic;

- (b) when they have their head office in another Member State, but editorial decisions for the audiovisual media services are taken in the Republic and a significant part of their staff, involved in the audiovisual media service activity related to the programme, works in the Republic;
  - (c) when they have their head office in the Republic, but a significant part of its staff involved in the audiovisual media service activity related to the programme, works both in the Republic and in another Member State;
  - (d) when they start offering their services for the first time pursuant to the legislation in force in the Republic and maintain a stable and effective link with its economy, despite the fact that a significant part of their staff involved in the audiovisual media service activity related to the programme, does not work in the Republic nor in another Member State;
  - (e) when they have their head office in the Republic but the decisions for the audiovisual media service are taken in a third country, or vice versa, provided that a significant part of their staff involved in the audiovisual media service activity, works in the Republic.
- (4) Media service providers to which the provisions of subsection (3) do not apply, shall be deemed to be under the jurisdiction of the Republic when:
- (a) they use an up-link from infrastructures located in the territory of the Republic;
  - (b) even though they do not use an up-link from infrastructures located in the territory the Republic, they use satellite capacity located in the Republic.
- (5) In cases where it is not possible to determine, pursuant to subsections (3) and (4) of this section, which Member State has the jurisdiction regarding the media service provider, competence rests with the Member State in which the media service provider is established in accordance with Articles 49 to 55 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.
- (6) Media service providers are required to inform the Authority of any changes that may affect the determination of the jurisdiction pursuant to the provisions of subsections (2), (3) and (4).
- (7) The Authority shall establish and maintain an updated list of audiovisual media service providers that are under the jurisdiction of the Republic and, pursuant to the

provisions of subsections (2) to (5), determines the criteria on which its jurisdiction is based, and shall communicate such list, as well as any updates thereof, to the Commission.

(8) If, in applying the provisions of sections 32 or 32C of this Law, the Republic and another interested Member State do not agree as to which Member State has jurisdiction, they shall bring the matter to the attention of the Commission without undue delay.

(9) The provisions of sections 3(2)(n), 3A and 27 to 34C of this Law shall not apply to audiovisual media services exclusively addressed to third countries and for which there is no direct or indirect reception by the public in the Republic and/or in one or more Member States by means of ordinary consumers' equipment.

Broadcasting  
of messages.

3B.—(1) Media service providers shall broadcast, free of charge, any messages specified by the Authority which are directly related to its operation and mission.

2 of  
73(I)/2011

(2) The messages referred to in subsection (1) shall be broadcast by television broadcasters between 19.00 and 22.00 and by radio broadcasters between 12.00 and 14.00:

Provided that the broadcasting time of the said messages shall not be considered as advertising time.

(3) For the purposes of this section, the term “message” shall include visual and/or audio message, announcement or instruction.

Appointment  
and  
composition  
of the  
Authority.

4.—(1) The Authority shall comprise the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman who shall be appointed by the Council of Ministers, following a suggestion of the President of the Republic, and five (5) Members who shall be appointed by the Council of Ministers.

3 of  
73(I)/2011  
2 of  
77(I)/2016

(2) The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Authority shall be appointed for a period of six (6) years and shall come from the fields of literature, arts, science or technology or shall be persons with special knowledge and recognised experience in mass media as well as of high professional and moral standards:

Provided that the term of the Chairman may be renewed only once.

(3) No person shall be appointed as Member of the Authority, if he has a direct or indirect interest in any media service provider or the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation.

(4) The first appointment of the Authority by the Council of Ministers shall be effected two months upon entry into force of this Law.

Vacation  
of post at  
the  
Authority.

5.—(1) The office of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Member of the Authority shall be vacated in the following cases:

(a) in case of death;

(b) in case of resignation submitted in writing to the Council of Ministers;

(c) in case of disqualification decided upon by the Council of Ministers —

(i) as a result of the assumption of an office or post in any political party; or

(ii) due to inappropriate conduct;

6 of  
197(I)/2021

(d) in case of discontinuation, as decided by the Council of Ministers, due to failure to fulfill the conditions required for the performance of their duties pursuant to the provisions of sections 4 and 8A:

It is understood that the decision for discontinuation shall be duly justified, shall be subject to prior notification and shall be made public.

(2) Where the office of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman or Member of the Authority is vacated prior to the expiry of his term, the Council of Ministers shall proceed with a new appointment for filling up the vacancy for the remainder of the term.

Temporary  
replacement  
of  
Chairman or  
Vice-  
Chairman  
of the  
Authority.

6. Where the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman of the Authority fails for any reason to conduct his duties, the Council of Ministers shall appoint a temporary replacement. This temporary appointment shall be terminated as soon as the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman, as the case may be, reassumes his duties:

Provided that the persons appointed pursuant to the above shall have the qualifications and meet the requirements referred to in subsections (2) and (3) of section 4.



7.—(1) The meetings of the Authority shall be convened by the Chairman or, in the event of temporary absence or other impediment of the Chairman, by the Vice-Chairman of the Authority. The invitation to a meeting shall be in writing and addressed to all Members of the Authority at least seven days prior to the fixed date of the meeting.

(2) In exceptional cases, in extraordinary and justified cases, a meeting of the Authority as per above shall be convened upon an invitation served to the Members of the Authority within reasonable time prior to the fixed date for the meeting. The invitation in such cases shall be sent by telegraph, telefax or email.

(3) The Chairman shall convene a meeting of the Authority whenever he deems it necessary; he shall, however, convene a meeting if so requested in writing by at least three Members who shall at the same time determine the matters to be discussed. Meetings shall be convened at least once a month.

(4) The meetings of the Authority shall be presided by the Chairman. In the event of absence or other impediment of the Chairman, the meeting shall be presided by the Vice-Chairman and in the event of temporary absence or other impediment of both, a Member to be elected for this purpose by the Members present shall preside the meeting.

(5) Four Members present at the meeting shall form a quorum. The decisions of the Authority shall be taken by majority. In case of a tie, the person presiding the meeting shall have a second or casting vote.

(6) A Member with a personal interest in a matter to be discussed shall notify the Authority accordingly and abstain from the discussion and the voting taken thereon.

(7) The Authority shall regulate by itself the procedure to be followed at its meetings.

(8) The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Authority shall be paid the remuneration provided for in the Authority's budget.

(9) The vacancy of a post or a defect in the appointment of a Member thereof shall not annul its actions and procedures.

7A. Subject to the provisions of this Law, the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Authority shall not be subject to criminal prosecution and shall not bear any civil liability for anything said or done or omitted during the execution and carrying out in

good faith of their duties and responsibilities provided for in this Law and the Regulations issued thereunder.

Representa-  
tion of the  
Authority.

8.—(1) With regard to any procedure before an administrative or other authority, the Authority shall be represented by the Director or any other employee duly authorized by the Authority for this purpose.

(2) All agreements concluded by the Authority shall be signed by the Chairman or the Director of the Authority or a person nominated by the Authority for this purpose.

Regulatory  
Authority.

7 of  
197(I)/2021

8A.-(1) The Cyprus Radiotelevision Authority, as the national regulatory authority, is legally distinct and functionally independent from the Government and any other public or private body and the Republic may delegate thereto the supervision of various sectors.

(2) The Authority shall exercise its powers impartially and transparently and in accordance with the purposes of this Law, in particular media pluralism, cultural and linguistic diversity, consumer protection, accessibility, non-discrimination, the proper functioning of the internal market, the promotion of fair competition and the development of media literacy.

(3) The Authority shall not ask for nor shall it receive instructions from any other body to carry out the functions it is assigned pursuant to the national legislative regulations implementing the European Union legislation.

(4) The Authority shall have sufficient financial and human resources and enforcement powers available to effectively carry out its functions and to contribute to ERGA's work; and to this end, it shall have its own annual revenue and expenditure budget which shall be made public as provided for in section 36.

(5) The procedures for the appointment and removal of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Authority shall be transparent, shall not be subject to discrimination and shall ensure the required degree of independence pursuant to the provisions of sections 4 and 5.

Collabo-  
ration  
amongst  
regulatory  
authorities  
or bodies of  
Member  
States.

8B.-(1) The Authority shall take appropriate measures to provide to the regulatory authorities of other Member States and to the Commission the information necessary to implement this Law, and in particular sections 3A, 32 and 32C.

(2) In the context of exchanging information pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1), when the Authority is being informed by a media service provider under its jurisdiction that such provider intends to provide a service wholly or mostly addressed to the public of another Member State, it shall inform the national regulatory authority or the body of that other Member State which shall be the receiver of the service.

(3) If the regulatory authority or body of the other Member State, the territory of which shall be the receiver of the services provided by a media service provider under the jurisdiction of the Republic, submits a request regarding the activities of such provider to the Authority, the Authority shall make every reasonable effort to examine the request within two (2) months, without prejudice to more stringent deadlines pursuant to the Directive 2018/1808/EU.

(4) If the Authority requests any information from the regulatory authority or body of the other Member State which is the receiver of such service, they shall provide to the Authority any information that may assist the examination of the request.

### PART III— AUTHORITY SERVICES

Authority  
services.

9.—(1) The Authority shall have its own office and services necessary for the attainment of its objects.

(2) The general management of the Authority's business shall be entrusted to its Director.

(3) The Director and the other employees of the Authority shall be appointed by the Authority itself and shall be subject to its administrative and disciplinary control.

(4) The Director of the Authority shall be appointed on a six-year contract, which may be renewed.

(5) The organisational structure of the Authority's services, the employment schemes and terms of the staff, the retirement benefits, the disciplinary code and the exercise of disciplinary power shall be determined by Regulations.

(6) The Director who is the chief executive body of the Authority shall be in charge of its services, see to the execution of its decisions and exercise any other duty, as may be specified, subject to the instructions given to him by the Authority.

(7) The Authority may transfer its responsibilities to the Director or to committees comprising Members of the Authority and in which the Director or other officers of the Authority may participate. The above transfer of responsibilities may be recalled by the Authority whenever it deems this fit.

(8) The Director shall attend the meetings of the Authority and its committees, with no voting right, unless the Authority decides otherwise.

3 of  
117(I)/2008

(9) By a Decree published in the Official Gazette of the Republic, the Council of Ministers shall set out positions which entail direct or indirect participation in the exercise of official authority and the safeguarding of the general interests of the State.

#### PART IV— POWERS OF THE MINISTER

Powers of  
the  
Minister.

10. The Minister may give instructions of a general nature to the Authority in relation to the exercise of its competences which shall be necessary for the general interest of the Republic.

#### PART V— RADIOTELEVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Radio-  
television  
Advisory  
Committee.

11.—(1) The Authority shall establish a Radiotelevision Advisory Committee in order to advise the former in the exercise of its responsibilities.

(2) A representative of each one of the following bodies shall participate in the Radiotelevision Advisory Committee, the composition of which must reflect public opinion:

(a) Ministry of the Interior;

8 of 197(I)/2021

(b) Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy

8 of 197(I)/2021

(c) Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth;

(d) Law Office of the Republic.

8 of 197(I)/2021

(e) Private television broadcasters.

8 of 197(I)/2021

(f) Private radio broadcasters.

(g) Union of Cyprus Journalists;

(h) Local self-administration;

(i) Trade unions;

(j) Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Cyprus Employers and Industrialists Federation;

(k) Cyprus Scientific and Technical Chamber;

(l) University of Cyprus;

(m) Cyprus Consumers Association.

(n) Cyprus Sociologists and Psychologists Association. The representative of this relevant Association shall be nominated by the Pancyprian Parents' Association.

(o) Cyprus Advertisers Association;

(p) the Church of Cyprus;

(q) Organizations of performing artists;

(r) Cyprus Newspapers Publishers Association.

(3) The operation and responsibilities of the Radiotelevision Advisory Committee shall be determined by regulations.

## PART VI— LICENSING

Licence for the establishment, installation and operation of a media service provider.

12. The Authority shall grant a licence for the establishment, installation and operation of a media service provider, which fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic.

5 of 97(I)/2004

6 of 118(I)/2010

Number of licences based on a radio and television coverage plan.

6 of 97(I)/2004  
7 of 118(I)/2010  
4 of 73(I)/2011  
9 of 197(I)/2021

13.—(1) The number and coverage of radio broadcasters shall be determined by the Authority based on a radio coverage plan drawn up and followed by the Director of the Department of Electronic Communications of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy, and which shall provide for the radio frequencies, geographic area coverage and locations from which licensed radio broadcasters shall transmit pursuant to section 5A of the Radiocommunications Laws.

146(I) of 2002  
15(I) of 2003  
16(I) of 2004  
180(I) of 2004  
74(I) of 2006  
50(I) of 2012  
52(I) of 2013  
113(I) of 2016  
75(I) of 2017

(2) The Authority, prior to granting the licence for the establishment, installation and operation of a radio broadcaster, shall consult with the Director of the Department of Electronic Communications of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy to ensure there are available radio frequencies for which an authorization may be granted pursuant to the provisions of section 16 of the Radiocommunications Laws.

(3) Holding a licence for the establishment, installation and operation of a radio or television broadcaster does not exempt the holder from their obligation to fully comply with the provisions of the Radiocommunications Laws.

Types of media service provider licences.

14.—(1) The licences for the establishment, installation and operation of a media service provider shall be granted with the purpose of serving the public interest.

8 of 118(I)/2010

(2) For the purposes of this Law, the following types of media service providers' licences are defined:

10 of 197(I)/2021

(a) television broadcaster licence, which shall be granted with regard to a television broadcaster the aim of which is the objective and impartial transmission of information and news, products of speech and art, as well as products of entertainment and which shall ensure the high quality standard of its broadcasts, in order to respond to its social mission and advance the cultural development of the country;

10 of 197(I)/2021

(b) [Deleted].

(c) thematic television broadcaster licence, which shall be granted with regard to a television broadcaster the aim of which is to transmit thematic television broadcasts limited to the special subjects for which the licence is granted;

(d) licence of a television broadcaster of encoded television broadcasts, which shall be granted with regard to a television broadcaster the aim of which is to transmit encoded television broadcasts of general interest and thematic broadcasts, and which ought to ensure the high quality standard of its broadcasts;

(e) a licence granted with regard to a television broadcaster having up-link premises in the Republic and the broadcasts of which are not exclusively addressed to the public of the Republic but are accessible to the territory of the Republic and/or other Member States;

(f) a video on-demand service licence, which shall be granted to a television broadcaster provider the aim of which is to provide audiovisual services by choice;

(g) a radio broadcaster licence, which shall be granted with regard to a national or local or small local radio broadcaster the aim of which is the objective and impartial transmission of information and news, products of speech and art as well as products of entertainment, and which shall ensure the high quality standard of its broadcasts, in order to respond to its social mission and advance the cultural development of the country or the areas it covers, respectively.

Transmission points and transfer of signals.

15. [Repealed].

11 of 197(I)/2021

Granting of a license.

16.—(1) The licence to establish, install and operate a radio broadcaster may be issued and granted only:

10 of 197(I)/2021

(a) to a company, which has been registered and has acquired legal personality under the Companies Law or a corresponding law of an EU Member State.

3, of 78(I)/2001  
Cap. 113  
9 / 1968  
76 / 1977  
17 / 1979  
105 / 1985  
198 / 1986  
19 / 1990  
41(I) / 1994  
15(I) / 1995  
21(I) / 1997

(b) to general or limited partnership, which has been registered under the General and Limited Partnerships Law or a corresponding law of an EU Member State.

78(I)/2001

(c) to a legal person of public law, which has been incorporated in the Republic or an EU Member State;

78(I)/2001  
10 of  
118(I)/2010  
12 of  
197(I)/2021

(d) to a natural person who is a national of the Republic or a national of an EU Member State, only for the operation of a radio broadcaster of small local coverage.

10 of  
118(I)/2010

(2) The licence to establish, install and operate a television broadcaster may be issued and granted only in the cases referred to in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of this section.

3 of  
78(I)/2001  
10 of  
118(I)/2010

(3) A national of an EU Member State or a company which has been registered or has acquired a legal personality under a law of an EU Member State to acquire a licence to establish, install and operate a television or radio broadcaster in the Republic shall satisfy the Authority that -

(a) they fulfil all the terms and conditions in force for a national of the Republic or a company, which has been registered or has acquired a legal personality in the Republic;

(b) they maintain a stable and effective link with the economy of an EU Member State; and

(c) in the case of a company -

(i) it maintains its place of business in an EU Member State; and

(ii) it is registered in the register of the Registrar of Companies of the Republic.

Types of  
licences.

17.—(1) The licence for the operation of a radio broadcaster may be of —

11 of  
118(I)/2010

(a) national coverage; or

(b) local coverage; or

(c) small local coverage.



13 of  
118(I)/2010 (2) [Deleted].

11 of  
118(I)/2010 (3) Section 26 of this Law shall not apply to radio broadcasters of small local coverage.

11 of  
118(I)/2010 (4) The licence for the operation of a television broadcaster may be of national coverage.  
13 of  
197(I)/2021

Number of  
licences.  
12 of  
118(I)/2010 18. The same natural or legal person shall be prohibited from obtaining more than one licences for a radio broadcaster and the same legal person shall be prohibited from obtaining more than one licences for a television broadcaster.

Restrictions  
on the issue  
of licences. 19.—(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Law, no licence shall be granted to a company, either a general or limited partnership or a legal person of public law, as provided for in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of section 16, which in this section shall be referred to as the company, unless the following requirements are met:

4 of  
78(I)/2001 (a) Where a registered owner or a beneficial owner of shares in a licensed company is another company or other companies registered in the Republic or an EU Member State and a registered owner or a beneficial owner of shares therein is another company or companies, the total number of shares in the latter company or companies shall belong to natural persons and the number of shares that each natural person shall hold in the other company or companies shall be specified by the provisions of subsection (2) of this section:

Provided that where a registered owner or a beneficial owner of shares in a licensed company is another public company listed on the Cyprus Stock Exchange or on a Stock Exchange of an EU Member State or other public companies listed on the Cyprus Stock Exchange or on the Stock Exchange of an EU Member State and a registered owner or a beneficial owner of shares therein is another company or companies, it shall not be necessary for the total number of shares of the latter company or companies to belong to natural persons:

Provided further that in the case referred to in the aforementioned proviso, the latter company or companies may not individually hold or control, directly or indirectly, more than 25% in the share capital of the public company which is listed on the Cyprus Stock

Exchange or on the Stock Exchange of an EU Member State and which is the beneficial owner of shares in a licensed company.

(b) No shareholder may control more than 25% in the company's total share capital:

2 of  
186(I)/2002  
13 of  
118(I)/2010

Provided that the shareholder of a radio broadcaster of local coverage may control up to 40% in the company's total share capital.

2 of  
134(I)/2000

(c) The total shares in a company belonging to persons who are related to each other up to the second degree or are spouses may not exceed 25% of the company's total share capital:

2 of  
186(I)/2002  
13 of  
118(I)/2010

Provided that in the case of a radio broadcaster of local coverage, the total shares in a company belonging to persons who are related to each other to the first degree or are spouses, may not exceed 40% of the company's total share capital.

4 of  
78(I)/2001

(d) An alien may acquire, upon obtaining permission from the Council of Ministers, company shares not exceeding 5% of its total share capital.

(e) The share capital of a company which may belong to aliens may not exceed 25% of its total share capital.

13 of  
118(I)/2010

(f) A licence for a radio broadcaster of small local coverage shall be granted to a company irrespective of its share composition.

(2)(a) No other company which is a shareholder in another company may hold or control, directly or indirectly, more than 25% of the company's total share capital.

(b) Where the shareholders of the company are more than one company, these other companies may not hold in total or control, directly or indirectly, more than 74% of the company's total share capital.

(c) A natural person who is a shareholder in another company, which is a shareholder in the company, may not hold or be a beneficial owner of shares of more than 10% in the other company.

(d) Where the shareholders of the company are more than one other company, no person who is a shareholder in more than one other company may be a holder or control shares

or be a beneficial owner of shares in such other companies, the percentage of which sums up in total to more than 10% of the company's shares.

(e) No other company which is registered or a beneficial owner of shares or which controls, directly or indirectly, more than 25% of the company's share capital, may be a shareholder of the company, if the Members of the Board of Directors of the company and of the other company are essentially the same or have a majority over 50% of the Members of the Board of Directors of the company and of the other company.

(f) Where shareholders of the company are more than one other company, no other company may be a shareholder of the company, if the Board of Directors of any other company or if the Members of the Board of Directors of the other companies are in substance the same or have a majority over 50% of the Members of the Board of Directors of the company or of any of the other companies which is a shareholder of the company.

2 of  
134(I)/2000

(g) The total shares of another company or other companies belonging to persons who are related to each other up to the second degree or are spouses may not be more than 25% of the total number or value, as the case may be, of the shares that the other company or the other companies in total hold in the company's share capital.

(h) For the purposes of this law, each other company that participates in the company's share capital shall be deemed to be a holding, subsidiary, dependent or associated company, if the shares of such other company are held or controlled by shareholders of another company or by the company or if the legal beneficiaries hold or control more than 51% in another company which is a shareholder of the company.

13 of  
118(I)/2010

(3) A media service provider licence shall not be granted to —

(a) a natural person who has been convicted of an offence involving dishonesty or moral turpitude or who suffers from a mental disorder;

(b) a company in which a shareholder controlling more than 5% of its share capital is any of the persons referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph.

2 of  
134(I)/2000  
13 of  
118(I)/2010

(4)(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Law, no licence for a radio broadcaster shall be granted to a natural person or a company holding or controlling in any way -

(i) a share percentage over 5% in a publishing house, newspaper or magazine;

13 of  
118(I)/2010  
14 of  
197(I)/2021

(ii) a percentage over 5% in a television broadcaster.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Law, no licence for a television broadcaster or thematic television broadcaster or television broadcaster of encoded broadcasts shall be granted to a company holding or controlling in any way -

13 of  
118(I)/2010  
14 of  
197(I)/2021

(i) a share percentage over 5% in a publishing house, newspaper or magazine;

13 of  
118(I)/2010

(ii) a percentage over 5% in a radio broadcaster of national coverage.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Law, no licence for a television or radio broadcaster shall be granted to a company the shareholders of which hold or control in any way -

13 of  
118(I)/2010

(i) a share percentage over 5% in a publishing house, newspaper or magazine;

13 of  
118(I)/2010  
14 of  
197(I)/2021

(ii) a percentage over 5% in a radio broadcaster of national coverage or a television broadcaster, respectively.

(d) For the purposes of this subsection, the share percentage shall include the percentage of the shares held by persons who are related to each other up to the second degree or are spouses.

(5) The shareholders of a company as well as the legal beneficiaries of shares, holding shares in a company through proxies to which a licence is granted for a radio or television broadcaster, shall submit an affidavit for the shares they hold regarding their exclusive ownership over the shares.

13 of  
118(I)/2010

(6) A natural or legal person violating any provision of this section shall be guilty of a criminal offence and, in case of conviction, shall be subject to imprisonment for up to three years or to a fine up to 85.400 Euro or to both penalties.

13 of  
118(I)/2010

(7) Notwithstanding the provisions of this or any other Law, the provisions of this section shall also apply to a licensed company the titles of which are listed on the Cyprus Stock Exchange.

2 of  
134(I)/2000

Publication of names of broadcaster owners.  
14 of 118(I)/2010  
15 of 197(I)/2021

20.—(1) The names of the shareholders as well as of the legal beneficiaries of shares holding more than 5% of the shares in a television broadcaster or radio broadcaster of national or local coverage shall be published in at least two daily newspapers in January, each year.

14 of 118(I)/2010

(2) Changes in the ownership or shareholding in a television or radio broadcaster must also be published in the aforementioned manner within one month from the occurrence of such change.

3 of 134(I)/2000

(3) In the case of a licensed company the titles of which have been listed on the Cyprus Stock Exchange, any changes in the ownership or shareholding shall be published as provided for in subsection (1) of this section within one month from the occurrence of such change, provided that a shareholder holds or acquires a percentage over 5% in the company's share capital.

(4) In the case of a licensed company the titles of which have been listed on the Cyprus Stock Exchange, the Chairman and the Members of the Board of Directors, the General Manager, the secretary, the auditors and the provident funds of its employees ought to announce to the Authority, in the same manner and within the same deadline, any information or announcement they are obliged to announce to the Council of the Cyprus Stock Exchange or the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission, pursuant to the legislation in force at the time governing the operation of the Cyprus Stock Exchange. Notwithstanding the above obligation, the Authority shall reserve the right to request from the licensed company, the titles of which have been listed on the Cyprus Stock Exchange, any documents or information deemed necessary in accordance with the right vested in it by this Law.

Terms for the granting and duration of a licence.

15 of 118(I)/2010

21.—(1) The licence granted pursuant to this Law may be granted on the terms and restrictions provided for in the Regulations issued thereunder or which the Authority deems fit to impose, including terms or restrictions as to the location and nature of the television or radio broadcaster, the objectives, operation, programmes, staff, equipment to be installed or used and the place where the antennas and transmitters shall be located which shall be determined in the interest of the protection of the health of citizens and the environment.

15 of 118(I)/2010

(2) The licence shall be valid, unless it is previously revoked, in the case of a television broadcaster for a period of five years and in the case of a radio broadcaster for a period of seven years:

2 of  
136(I)/2009 Provided that where the Authority wishes to -

15 of  
118(I)/2010 (a) grant a new television broadcaster licence, or

15 of  
118(I)/2010 (b) renew a licence of an existing licensed television broadcaster,

136(I)/2009 between the date of entry into force of the Radio and Television Stations (Amending)(No.2) Law of 2009 and 1.7.2011, which was decided by the Council of Ministers as the date of transition of the Republic to a fully digital television environment, or any other date decided upon by the Council of Ministers, such licence shall not be valid after 1.7.2011 or after the date decided upon by the Council of Ministers as the date of transition of the Republic to a fully digital television environment.

16 of  
197(I)/2021 (2A) The licence shall be granted pursuant to the provisions of this Law, provided that it meets all the requirements herein.

If the television broadcaster or the broadcasts thereof are connected or related to a legal person of public law, the Authority may, in accordance with the provisions of this section, renew the licence of the television broadcaster or of the broadcasts thereof or grant a new licence to the television broadcaster or to the broadcasts thereof even if not all the provisions of this Law are met.

16 of  
197(I)/2021 (2B) The procedure for granting a licence to a television or radio broadcaster, as well as all the relevant application forms, shall be determined by decision of the Authority.

16 of  
197(I)/2021 (2C) The operation of a television broadcaster and of the broadcasts it offers in an electronic communications network is prohibited unless it has previously acquired a licence from the Authority and has paid the annual licence fee to the Authority, as provided for by section 24.

15 of  
118(I)/2010 (3) The suspension of the operation of a licensed television or radio broadcaster for a period of three consecutive months shall imply the expiry of the licence, except in exceptional cases, upon prior approval by the Authority.

15 of  
118(I)/2010  
16 of  
197(I)/2021 (4) The licensee may not operate a television or radio broadcaster before satisfying the Authority and the Director of the Department of Electronic Communications of Cyprus'

Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy that it has fully complied with the terms of the licence regarding the terms within their competence.

(5) The licence may include terms and restrictions regarding the parallel or simultaneous provision of other related services.

Assessment  
of  
applications  
for the  
granting of a  
licence.

22.—(1) The applications submitted for the granting of a licence to establish, install and operate a television or radio broadcaster shall be mainly assessed with regard to the following —

16 of  
118(I)/2010

(a) the completeness and quality of the programme:

16 of  
118(I)/2010

Provided that the completeness of the programme shall concern neither the thematic television or radio broadcasters nor the television broadcasters of encoded broadcasts regarding their programme broadcast in a closed zone;

(b) the knowledge, experience, ability and numerical adequacy of regular staff, especially of that involved in informational, educational and entertainment broadcasts;

(c) the programming commitment for the development of the sectors of information, education and entertainment and the contribution to all forms of literature and art as well as the ability to keep these commitments;

16 of  
118(I)/2010

(d) the ability and the commitment of the applicants to ensure pluralism in their programmes and broadcasts and the greatest possible access thereto, the journalistic and creative independence of journalists and other creators in the television or radio broadcaster and the regulation of the terms of employment of editors and other employees in the television or radio broadcaster through collective negotiations and collective employment contracts with their legally recognised professional body pursuant to the Industrial Relations Code;

17 of  
197(I)/2021

(e) the technical efficiency of the broadcaster;

16 of  
118(I)/2010

(f) the economic viability of the television or radio broadcaster.

16 of  
118(I)/2010

(2) The procedure for the granting or renewal of a licence shall be effected in full transparency. Applicants shall be responsible to submit all documents required in support of their application and substantiate before the Authority their ability to respond to the

provisions of this Law and of the Regulations issued thereunder and meet their programming commitments to serve the public interest and the independence of the television or radio broadcaster.

Transfer of  
a licence.

23.—(1) The licence granted under this Law shall be personal.

(2) Where a licence is granted to a company, neither any amendment to its Memorandum or Articles of Association nor any transfer or other transaction regarding its shares shall be allowed without the prior consent of the Authority:

3 of  
134(I)/2000

Provided that in the case of a licensed company the titles of which have been listed on the Cyprus Stock Exchange, the consent of the Authority shall be required for the transfer or another transaction, in the event that a shareholder holding more than 5% of the share capital of the licensed company, transfers, in one or more transactions, more than 40% of his shares or in the event that a person acquires, in one or more transactions, a percentage over 5% in the share capital of the licensed company.

(3) In examining whether to consent or not to the amendment of the Memorandum or Articles of Association of the company or to the transfer or to another transaction regarding its shares, the Authority shall take into account the criteria applied in the initial selection procedure.

17 of  
118(I)/2010

(4) In the case of death of a person to whom a licence for a radio broadcaster of small local coverage had been granted, the transfer of the licence to his heirs shall be effected with the written consent of the Authority, provided that the criteria applied in the initial selection procedure continue to be met.

Payment of  
fees.

24. (1) For the granting of a media service provider licence, the following fees shall be paid every year to the Authority:

18 of  
118(I)/2010  
5 of  
73(I)/2011  
18 of  
197(I)/2021

(a) 51.400 Euro for each television broadcast of a television broadcaster;

(b) 5.100 Euro for a national radio broadcaster;

(c) 850 Euro for a local and small local radio broadcaster.



An annual fee shall also be paid to the Authority, which shall correspond to 0.5% on the revenues of the media service providers from advertisements or audiovisual commercial communications broadcasts during their programme.

5 of  
73(I)/2011

(2) A media service provider or any other natural or legal person having the responsibility to manage the advertisements and audiovisual commercial communications addressed to the Cypriot public which are included in the programme of a television broadcaster based in a Member State of the European Union or a third country, which is broadcast, upon authorization by the Authority, via an electronic communications network, shall pay the Authority the percentage of 0.5% on the revenues from the said advertisements or audiovisual commercial communications, as this is provided for in subsection (1) of this section.

18 of  
197(I)/2021

(2A) Subject to the provisions of subsection (1), the annual licence fee is paid to the Authority by an existing licenced television broadcaster or for the broadcasts thereof within seven (7) days of 1<sup>st</sup> July of each year and by a new television broadcaster or for the broadcasts thereof, every year, within seven (7) days of the date coinciding with the date on which the licence had been originally granted.

Revocation  
of a licence.

25.—(1) The Authority may, with a fully justified decision thereof, which shall be taken by at least half of the total number of its Members, and after previously hearing the interested party, revoke at any time any media service provider licence —

19 of  
118(I)/2010

(a) if it is proven that the conditions of section 22, under which the licence was initially approved, have ceased to be fulfilled; or

(b) if it is proven that the principles set out in section 26 are not fulfilled; or

(c) if a serious or repeated violation of the terms of the licence is established; or

(d) if a serious violation of the provisions of this Law and of the Regulations issued thereunder is proven; or

(e) in the case of a second conviction since the granting or the latest renewal of the licence due to the commitment of any of the offences provided for in Part II of the Criminal Code; or

Cap.154  
3 of 1962  
43 of 1963  
41 of 1964  
69 of 1964  
70 of 1965  
5 of 1967  
58 of 1967  
44 of 1972  
92 of 1972  
29 of 1973  
59 of 1974  
3 of 1975  
13 of 1979  
10 of 1981  
46 of 1982  
86 of 1983  
186 of 1986  
111 of 1989  
236 of 1991  
6 (I) of 1994  
3 (I) of 1996  
36(I) of 1997

(f) if the licence was obtained on the basis of false or misleading information when submitting the relevant application; or

9 of  
97(I)/2004

(g) in case of a delay exceeding two months in the payment of the fees provided for in section 24 or of an administrative fine imposed by virtue of section 41A; or

19 of  
197(I)/2021

(h) in case the Director of the Department of Electronic Communications of the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy requests so, under the Radiocommunications Laws and with the assent of the Authority; or

19 of  
118(I)/2010

(i) in case of unjustified delay of more than six months in the commencement of operation of the television or radio broadcaster, according to the schedule submitted with the application.

(2) In case of a revocation of a licence, the fees paid in relation thereto shall not be refundable.

20 of  
118(I)/2010  
20 of  
197(I)/2021

## PART VII – GENERAL PROVISIONS GOVERNING TELEVISION AND RADIO BROADCASTS

Principles  
governing  
broadcasts.  
21 of  
118(I)/2010

26.—(1) The broadcasts of each licensed television or radio broadcaster shall be governed by the principles of —

(a) objectivity, completeness and timeliness of information. The completeness of the programme of a non-thematic television or radio broadcaster shall be reflected:

(i) by the percentage of informational programmes, excluding the news bulletins, broadcast between 12.00 and 24.00, which shall not be less than 7% of the total broadcasting time during the course of one week;

3 of  
23(I)/2000  
21 of  
197(I)/2021

(ii) by the percentage of cultural programmes broadcast between 12.00 and 24.00, which shall be at least 2% of the broadcasting time, excluding the time for news, sports events, television/radio games, advertising or teleshopping services:

21 of  
118(I)/2010

Provided that the above percentages shall also apply to television broadcasters of encoded broadcasts only with regard to their programme broadcast in unencoded form;

(b) high quality;

(c) plurality and the greatest possible access of the public and its bodies;

(d) safeguarding the quality of the language;

(e) respect to the personality, repute and private life of the individual;

(f) respect to the ideals of democracy and human rights;

(g) safeguarding the national identity and cultural heritage of the people of Cyprus.

(2) The news bulletins and the current affairs programmes shall be characterized by objectivity and plurality, especially regarding political issues as well as other social issues that are of concern to public opinion.

21 of  
118(I)/2010

(3) [Deleted].

2 of  
84(I)/2006

(4) The broadcasting of programmes in which techniques that address the subconscious are used shall be prohibited.

Promotion  
of the  
distribution  
and  
production  
of television  
programmes  
, European  
works and  
independent  
productions.  
22 of  
118(I)/2010

27.—(1) Television broadcasters shall reserve for European works, pursuant to section 28, the majority percentage of their transmission time, excluding the time allotted to news, sports events, games, advertising, teletext services and teleshopping. This percentage of European works, considering the television broadcaster's informational, educational, cultural and entertainment responsibilities to its viewing public, should be achieved progressively on the basis of suitable criteria set by the Authority.

22 of  
118(I)/2010  
22 of  
197(I)/2021

(2) Television broadcasters shall reserve, where practicable and by appropriate means, at least 10% of their transmission time, excluding the time allotted to news, sports events, games, advertising or teletext services and teleshopping, or alternately, at the discretion of broadcasters, at least 10% of their programming budget for European works created by producers who are independent of television broadcasters. This percentage,

considering the broadcaster's informational, educational, cultural and entertainment responsibilities to its viewing public, should be achieved progressively, on the basis of suitable criteria set by the Authority, by dedicating an adequate percentage to recent works, that is to say, works that are broadcast within 5 years of their production.

(3)(a) The Authority shall prepare and send to the Commission, every two years, a report concerning the application of subsections (1) and (2) of this section. This report shall include a statistical statement on the achievement of the percentage referred to in subsections (1) and (2) for each television broadcaster falling within the jurisdiction of the Republic, the reasons, in each case, for any failure to achieve that percentage and the measures adopted or envisaged in order to achieve it.

(b) The Authority shall inform the Council of Ministers and the House of Representatives of the report referred to in paragraph (a).

(4) This section shall not apply to thematic television broadcasters broadcasting sports or musical programmes.

22 of  
197(I)/2021

Exclusive  
broadca-  
sting.  
11 of  
97(I)/2004

27 A. [Repealed].

Definition  
of  
European  
works.

23 of  
197(I)/2021

28.— (1) For purposes of this Law, the term “European works” shall mean:

(a) works originating in Member States;

(b) works originating in European third countries which are parties to the European Convention on Transfrontier Television of the Council of Europe and fulfil the conditions of subsection (2) of this section.

(c) works co-produced within the framework of agreements related to the audiovisual sector concluded between the European Community and third countries which fulfil the conditions defined in each of those agreements:

Provided that the application of the provisions of paragraphs (b) and (c) shall be conditional on works originating in Member States which are not subject to discriminatory measures in the third countries concerned.

(2) The works referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) are works mainly made with creators and workers residing in one or more of the States referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1), provided that they comply with one of the following three conditions:

- (i) they are made by one or more producers established in one or more of those States; or
- (ii) production of the works is supervised and actually controlled by one or more producers established in one or more of those States;
- (iii) the contribution of co-producers of those States to the total co-production costs is preponderant and the co-production is not controlled by one or more producers established outside those States.

(3) Works that are not European works within the meaning of subsection (1) but are produced within the framework of bilateral co-production treaties concluded between Member States and third countries shall be deemed to be European works, provided that the co-producers from the European Union supply a majority share of the total cost of production and that the production is not controlled by one or more producers established outside the territory of the Member States.

Events of major importance and exclusive broadcast.

28A.—(1) Television broadcasters that fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic shall not broadcast on an exclusive basis events which are regarded, under the provisions of subsection (2), as being of major importance for the society in such a way as to deprive a substantial proportion of the public in the Republic of the possibility of watching such events by live coverage or deferred coverage on free television.

12 of 97(I)/2004  
24 of 118(I)/2010

24 of 118(I)/2010

(2) The Authority shall draw up, with a Notification published in the Official Gazette of the Republic and pursuant to the procedure specified in Regulations, a list of national or other events which it considers to be of major importance to the society and determine whether these events should be available for whole or partial coverage or, where necessary or appropriate for objective reasons in the public interest, for whole or partial deferred coverage.

24 of 118(I)/2010

(3) Television broadcasters that fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic shall not exercise exclusive rights in such a way that a substantial proportion of the public in another Member State is deprived of the possibility of watching events which are

designated by that other Member State as events of major importance for the society in accordance with its national legislation, and have been communicated to the Commission, by whole or partial live coverage or, where necessary or appropriate, by whole or partial deferred coverage on free television.

(4) The Authority shall notify to the Commission the measures taken with a view to the application of subsections (1), (2) and (3).

(5) Subsections (3) and (4) shall come into force as of the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2004.

(6) For purposes of better application of this section, Regulations shall be issued which may determine, inter alia, the following:

- (a) the purpose of the events of major importance;
- (b) the determination of the significant proportion of the public;
- (c) the procedures for determining the events of major importance;
- (d) the method of broadcasting events of major importance;
- (e) the limitations in the exercise of exclusive rights;
- (f) the relevant remedies in case of violation of the provisions of this section.

Transmis-  
sion of short  
extracts of  
events of  
high  
interest.

25 of  
118(I)/2010  
3 of  
53(I)/2019

28B.-(1) Television broadcasters exercising exclusive television broadcasting rights to an event of high interest to the public should provide other broadcasters established in the Republic or in another Member State, including the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation, with short extracts from events of high interest for the public exclusively for the purposes of general news programmes, i.e. news bulletins and current affairs programmes on fair, reasonable and equal, financial or other, terms. Such terms should be communicated in a timely manner before the event by the television broadcaster exercising exclusive television broadcasting rights to give interested parties sufficient time to exercise such a right.

(2) If another television broadcaster established in the same Member State as the television broadcaster seeking access has acquired exclusive rights to the said event, access shall be sought from that television broadcaster.

(3) The television broadcaster holding exclusive rights, shall ensure that the access referred to in subsection (1) is guaranteed by allowing television broadcasters to freely choose, subject to the conditions referred to in subsection (4), short extracts from the signal of the television broadcaster having the exclusive rights.

(4) The broadcast of extracts by a television broadcaster acquiring access thereto pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the extracts are exclusively used for purposes of general news programmes, i.e. news bulletins and current affairs programmes:

Provided that the extracts referred to hereinabove may be used in on-demand services only if the same programme is offered on a deferred basis by the same media service provider;

- (b) the broadcast of extracts shall be effected after the end of the specific event, for a period not exceeding 24 hours from the end of the event;
- (c) the duration of the broadcast of extracts from the event in question may not exceed 180 seconds and may not be repeated more than three (3) times within 24 hours from the end of the event;
- (d) where compensation is provided for, it shall not exceed the costs directly incurred in providing access;
- (e) during the entire broadcast of the said extracts, the television broadcaster broadcasting them ought to keep on the screen the logo of the television broadcaster from which it has acquired access to the said extracts.

24 of  
197(I)/2021

## PART VIII – PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO AUDIOVISUAL MEDIA SERVICES

Protection  
of  
minors.

29.—(1) Media service providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall take the appropriate measures to ensure that their audiovisual media services which may impair the physical, mental or moral development of minors are only made available in such a way as to ensure that minors will not normally hear or see them.

15 of  
97(I)/2004

27 of  
118(I)/2010

25 of  
197(I)/2021

(2) The measures provided for in the above subsection (1) may include selecting the time of the broadcast, age verification tools or any other technical measures.

(3) The above measures shall be proportionate to the potential harm the programme may cause.

(4) The most harmful content, such as gratuitous violence and pornography, shall be subject to the strictest measures.

(5) Personal data of minors collected or otherwise generated by audiovisual media service providers pursuant to subsections (1) to (4), shall not be processed for commercial purposes, such as direct marketing, profiling and behaviourally targeted advertising.

(6) Media service providers shall ensure that they provide sufficient information to viewers about content which may impair the physical, mental or moral development of minors. For this purpose, media service providers shall use a system describing the potentially harmful nature of the content of an audiovisual media service:

For the implementation of this subsection, the Authority shall encourage the use of co-regulation as provided for in section 31B(1).

(7) The Authority and the Commission may foster self-regulation, for the purposes of this section, through European Union codes of conduct as referred to in section 31B(2).

(8) For the programmes referred to in subsections (1) to (4) above, broadcasted in unencoded form, audiovisual media service providers shall ensure that they are preceded by an acoustic warning or are identified by the presence of a visual symbol throughout their duration.

(9) To comply with the requirement of subsection (1), on demand audiovisual media services, should provide and inform the Authority to this end, besides labelling, additional technical means, in particular an easy-to-use content filtering system and access codes thereto supplied to the parents and/or guardians of minors when they subscribe to an access provider, to ensure that minors cannot access services that could harm their physical, mental or moral development.

(10) The Authority, being in contact with the Radiotelevision Advisory Committee, shall periodically investigate the possible advantages and disadvantages of any further



measures in order to facilitate the control exercised by parents and guardians over the programmes that minors watch. This investigation shall include the feasibility of —

- (a) the requirement for new television sets to be equipped with a technical device enabling parents and guardians to prevent children from watching specific programmes;
- (b) creating appropriate programme rating systems;
- (c) encouraging family viewing policies and other educational and awareness measures;
- (d) considering the experience gained in the Republic, the other Member States and other third countries, as well as the views of interested parties, such as broadcasters, producers, education and mass media experts and relevant organisations.

29A. (1) The participation of minors in commercial programmes, broadcasts, audiovisual commercial communications or advertisements, hereinafter called, for the purposes of this section, “participation of minors,” shall be allowed only provided that the prior written consent of the parents or guardians is obtained or provided that this serves the minor’s interests.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of section 7 of the Protection of Young Persons at Work Law regarding the employment of a child in an activity of cultural, artistic, sports or advertising nature, the participation of a minor in cultural or artistic programmes, broadcasts or audiovisual communications of a similar content, shall be allowed unconditionally, provided that the free participation of the minor is ensured:

Provided that, where the participation of a minor falls within the meaning of employment under the provisions of the Protection of Young Persons at Work Law, then the provisions of this Law shall apply.

(3) Without prejudice to the provisions of subsections (1), for the participation of a minor over the age of fifteen (15), the written consent of the minor himself shall be required.

(4) Without prejudice to the provisions of subsection (1), for the participation of a minor under the age of fifteen (15), the maturity of the minor shall be taken into account, while

Participation of minors in programmes, broadcasts, audiovisual commercial communications or advertisements.

3 of 201(I)/2015

48(I) of 2001 15(I) of 2012

in case the minor expresses in any way a refusal to participate or a refusal to continue participating in any activity irrespective of its nature, then the participation of the minor shall be excluded or interrupted, respectively.

201(I) of  
2015

(5) The Authority shall, within six (6) months from the entry into force of the Radio and Television Broadcasters (Amending) (No.2) Law of 2015, adopt a Code of Practice to be implemented by audiovisual content service providers regarding the participation of minors, upon consultation with all parties involved, including organised groups of minors, which shall set out the common guidelines as to the participation of minors, the behaviour of audiovisual content service providers for purposes of ensuring, promoting and protecting minors' rights and other related matters.

Provided that nothing in this subsection shall hamper audiovisual content service providers from adopting, further to the Code of Practice in force at the time as per above, specific rules of conduct as a result of a self-regulation and/or co-regulation conduct regime amongst more audiovisual content service providers.

(6) The Authority shall forward to the competent parliamentary committee the Code of Practice provided for in subsection (5) to inform it within one (1) month from the expiry of the deadline of six (6) months pursuant to the provisions of subsection (5).

Incitement to  
violence or  
hatred or/and  
public  
provocation  
to commit a  
terrorist  
offence.

30.-(1) Without prejudice to the duty to respect and protect human dignity, a media service provider under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall ensure with appropriate measures that the audiovisual media services it broadcasts do not contain elements of-

26 of  
197(I)/2021

(a) incitement to violence or hatred against any person, a group of persons or a member of a group of persons in such a manner as to violate fundamental human rights protected by the Constitution of the Republic and/or violate human rights protected by article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;

75(I)/2019

(b) public provocation to commit a terrorist offence, as set out in section 13 of the Combatting of Terrorism and Victim Protection Law.

(2) The measures taken for the purposes of this section are necessary and proportionate, they respect the rights and follow the principles set out in the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union.

30A.-(1) Media service providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall ensure that they shall make easily, directly and permanently accessible to the recipients of their service at least the following information:

- (a) their name;
- (b) the geographical address at which they are established;
- (c) details, including their electronic mail address or website, which shall enable them to be contacted rapidly in a direct and effective manner;
- (d) that they are under the jurisdiction of the Republic and that the Authority is the competent regulatory and supervisory body in the Republic.

(2) Media service providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall enable the Authority to access information regarding their ownership structure, including the beneficial owners.

(3) Every measure taken by the Authority for the purposes of subsection (2) respects the fundamental rights, such as the private and family life of the beneficial owners, is necessary and proportionate and aims at achieving a general interest objective.

30B.-(1) Media service providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall ensure, without undue delay, that their services are continuously and progressively made all the more accessible to people with disabilities through proportionate measures:

Accessibility to the services is particularly achieved by subtitling programmes, the use of sign language, audio description, and spoken subtitles.

(2) Each television broadcaster shall broadcast between the hours of 18.00 and 22.00 a special news bulletin understood by deaf people of duration of at least five minutes:

Provided that the broadcasting of the aforementioned special news bulletin is exhibited on at least one half of the television screen.

(2A) Media service providers shall report on a regular basis to the Authority on the implementation of the measures referred to in subsection (1) above.

28 of  
197(I)/2021

(2B) By 19 December 2022 and every three years thereafter, the Authority shall report to the Commission on the implementation of subsection (1).

28 of  
197(I)/2021

(2C) The Authority shall encourage media service providers to develop accessibility action plans in respect of continuously and progressively making their services more accessible to persons with disabilities. Any such action plan shall be communicated to the Authority.

(3) Following consultations with the Authority, media service providers shall submit a schedule to the Authority within a period of one year from the entry into force of this section, setting out specific methods for gradual increase of the percentage of their programmes, by at least 5% in addition to the news bulletin, which shall be accessible to people with a visual or hearing disability.

28 of  
197(I)/2021

(4) The Authority shall designate a single, easily accessible, including by persons with disabilities, and publicly available online point of contact for providing information and receiving complaints regarding any accessibility issues referred to in this section.

28 of  
197(I)/2021

(5) Media service providers shall ensure that emergency information, including public communications and announcements in natural disaster situations, which is made available to the public through audiovisual media services, is provided in a manner which is accessible to persons with disabilities.

Media  
literacy.  
29 of  
118(I)/2010  
29 of  
197(I)/2021

30C.-(1) The Authority shall promote and take measures for the development of media literacy skills.

(2) The Authority shall undertake, in cooperation with other competent governmental, semi-governmental and private agencies, to promote the planning and coordination of the development and implementation of programmes (research, educational, informational and other) to upgrade the level of media literacy in the Republic.

(3) Media service providers shall participate in these efforts, on the basis of the Authority's planning, and particularly in the dissemination to citizens of clear and user-friendly information and of the support of awareness campaigns, *inter alia*, on the method of production, promotion and distribution of information and creative content in a digital environment, for the responsible use of the internet in general, as well as on the method of operation of search engines and their optimum use.

(4) For the purposes of this section, the term “media literacy” shall mean the ability to access, understand, analyse, use and critically assess the various aspects of media and its content, the ability to create content in the media, as well as the ability to communicate, safely and responsibly, mainly through new technologies.

(5) The Authority shall send a report to the Commission relating to the application of subsection (1), which shall be communicated to the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth, no later than 19 December 2022 and every three years thereafter.

(6) The Authority shall take all appropriate measures to comply with the guidelines of the Commission, upon consultation with the contact committee.

Transmission  
of  
cinematogra-  
phic works  
29 of 118(I)/  
2010

30D. Media service providers shall not transmit cinematographic works outside the time periods agreed with the rights holders.

Audiovisual  
commercial  
communica-  
tions.  
29 of  
118(I)/2010  
30 of  
197(I)/2021

30E.-(1) Media service providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall ensure that the audiovisual commercial communications they transmit comply with the following requirements and/or restrictions:

- (a) audiovisual commercial communications shall be readily recognisable as such;
- (b) surreptitious audiovisual commercial communications shall be prohibited;
- (c) audiovisual commercial communications using subliminal techniques shall be prohibited;
- (d) audiovisual commercial communications shall be prohibited from:
  - (i) prejudicing respect for human dignity;
  - (ii) including or promoting any discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, nationality, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation;
  - (iii) encouraging behaviour prejudicial to health or safety;

(iv) encouraging behaviour grossly prejudicial to the protection of the environment;

(e) all forms of audiovisual commercial communications for cigarettes and other tobacco products, as well as for electronic cigarettes and refill containers shall be prohibited;

(f) audiovisual commercial communications for alcoholic beverages shall be prohibited from being specifically aimed at minors and from encouraging immoderate consumption of such beverages;

(g) audiovisual commercial communications for medicinal products and medical treatment available only on prescription in the Republic shall be prohibited;

(h) audiovisual commercial communications shall be prohibited from-

- (i) causing physical, mental or moral detriment to minors; or
- (ii) directly exhorting minors to buy or hire a product or service by exploiting their inexperience or credulity; or
- (iii) directly encouraging them to persuade their parents or others to purchase the goods or services being advertised; or
- (iv) exploiting the special trust minors place in parents, teachers or other persons; or
- (v) unreasonably showing minors in dangerous situations.

(2) Audiovisual commercial communications for alcoholic beverages, in on-demand audiovisual media services, with the exception of sponsorship and product placement, shall comply with the criteria set out in section 33(4) of this Law.

(3) The Authority encourages the use of co-regulation and the fostering of self-regulation through codes of conduct as provided for in section 31B(1) of this Law regarding inappropriate audiovisual commercial communications for alcoholic beverages. Those codes shall aim to effectively reduce the exposure of minors to audiovisual commercial communications for alcoholic beverages.

(4) The Authority encourages the use of co-regulation and the fostering of self-regulation through codes of conduct as provided for in section 31B(1) of this Law regarding inappropriate audiovisual commercial communications, accompanying or included in children's programmes, for foods and beverages containing nutrients and substances with

a nutritional or physiological effect, in particular fat, trans-fatty acids, salt or sodium and sugars, of which excessive intakes in the overall diet are not recommended.

(5) The codes mentioned in subsection (4) shall aim to effectively reduce the exposure of children to audiovisual commercial communications for such foods and beverages. They shall aim to provide that such audiovisual commercial communications do not emphasise the positive quality of the nutritional aspects of such foods and beverages.

(6) The Authority and the Commission may foster self-regulation, for the purposes of this section, through European Union codes of conduct as referred to in section 31B(2) of this Law.

Unhealthy  
foods.  
29 of  
118(I)/2010

30F.-(1) Media service providers shall be obliged to develop, together with the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation, a common Code of Practice regarding inappropriate audiovisual commercial communications, accompanying or included in, children's programmes, of foods and beverages containing nutrients or other substances with nutritional or physiological effects, particularly ingredients and substances such as fat, saturated fat, trans-fatty acids, salt/sodium and sugars, excessive intakes of which are not recommended in the overall diet.

(2) For purposes of abiding by the obligation referred to in subsection (1), media service providers, including the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation, shall submit to the Authority for approval within one year at the latest from the application of this Law, and after their consultations amongst themselves, a common Code of Practice regarding inappropriate audiovisual commercial communications, on the basis of a list of unhealthy foods which is drawn up and reviewed periodically by the competent authorities of the Ministry of Health of the Republic.

Product  
placement.  
4 of  
53(I)/2019  
29 of  
118(I)/2010  
31 of  
197(I)/2021

30G.-(1) This section shall apply to programmes produced after 19 December 2009.

(2) Product placement shall be allowed in all audiovisual media services, except in news and current affairs programmes, consumer affairs programmes, religious programmes and children's programmes.

(3) Programmes that contain product placement shall meet the following requirements:

(a) their content and organisation within a schedule, in the case of television broadcasting, or within a catalogue in the case of on-demand audiovisual media

services, shall under no circumstances be influenced in such a way as to affect the responsibility and editorial independence of the media service provider;

- (b) they shall not directly encourage the purchase or rental of goods or services, in particular by making special promotional references to those goods or services;
- (c) they shall not give undue prominence to the products in question, especially by close and/or prolonged exposure;
- (d) (i) viewers shall be clearly informed of the existence of product placement by an appropriate identification at the start and at the end of the programme, and when a programme resumes after an advertising break, in order to avoid any confusion on the part of the viewer:

The requirements set out in this paragraph shall be waived for programmes not produced or commissioned by the media service provider or by a company affiliated with that media service provider, provided that such provider does not benefit financially or otherwise from the product placement;

(ii) the total screening and/or reference time to products and services in product placement messages shall be limited to the minimum of the total time of the programme they have been placed in and may not, in any case, exceed three (3) minutes for cinematographic works and television films, and one (1) minute for series episodes, sports programmes and light entertainment programmes.

(4) In any event, programmes shall not contain product placement of:

- (a) cigarettes and other tobacco products, as well as electronic cigarettes and refill containers, or product placement from undertakings whose principal activity is the manufacture or sale of those products;
- (b) specific medicinal products or medical treatments available only on prescription in the Republic;
- (c) children's toys, pursuant to the provisions of section 33(5) of this Law;
- (d) any other product, good or service, the advertising of which is not allowed under this Law and the Regulations issued thereunder.

(5) The incorporation of a product placement message at any stage following the completion of the production of audiovisual works shall be expressly prohibited.



(6) The provision of products or services free of charge in the cases where sponsorship is not allowed shall be prohibited.

Sponsorship  
29 of  
118(I)/2010

30H. Audiovisual media services or programmes that are sponsored must meet the following requirements:

- (a) their content and, in the case of television broadcasting, their scheduling, shall under no circumstances be influenced in such a way as to affect the responsibility and editorial independence of the media service provider;
- (b) they shall not directly encourage the purchase or rental of goods or services, in particular by making special promotional references to those goods or services;
- (c) viewers shall be clearly informed of the existence of a sponsorship agreement. Sponsored programmes shall be clearly identified as such by the name, logo and/or any other symbol of the sponsor such as a reference to its product(s) or service(s) or a distinctive sign thereof in an appropriate manner for programmes at the beginning, during and/or at the end of the programmes.

Prohibition  
of  
sponsorship  
by tobacco,  
electronic  
cigarettes  
and refill  
containers'  
undertakings.  
29 of  
118(I)/2010  
32 of  
197(I)/2021

30I. Audiovisual media services or programmes shall not be sponsored by undertakings whose principal activity is the manufacture or sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products, as well as of electronic cigarettes and refill containers.

Provision  
for  
sponsorship  
for  
medicinal  
products or  
treatments  
available  
only  
on  
prescription  
29 of  
118(I)/2010  
33 of  
197(I)/2021

30J. The sponsorship of audiovisual media services or programmes by undertakings the activities of which include the manufacture or sale of medicinal products and medical treatments may promote the name or the image of the undertaking, but shall not promote specific medicinal products or medical treatments available only on prescription in the Republic within the jurisdiction of which the media service provider falls.

Prohibitions  
on  
sponsorship.

30K.-(1) News and current affairs programmes, such as news bulletins and political informational programmes, shall not be allowed to be sponsored:

29 of  
118(I)/2010  
5 of  
53(I)/2019  
34 of  
197(I)/ 2021

Provided that the above shall not apply to weather reports, environment news, stock market reports and foreign exchange reports as well as sports news, which are clearly distinguished from the news.

(2) The appearance of a sponsorship logo during children's programmes, documentaries and religious programmes shall be allowed only for a period of three minutes at the beginning of the programme and three minutes before the end of the programme.

Audiovisual  
media  
services of  
general  
interest.  
35 of  
197(I)/2021

30L. The Authority may take measures to ensure the appropriate prominence of audiovisual media services of general interest.

Protection  
of providers  
and users of  
audiovisual  
media  
services.  
35 of  
197(I)/2021

30M. The Authority shall take appropriate and proportionate measures to ensure that audiovisual media services provided by media service providers are not, without the explicit consent of those providers, overlaid for commercial purposes or modified.

For the purposes of this section, the Authority shall specify the regulatory details, including exceptions, notably in relation to safeguarding the legitimate interests of users while taking into account the legitimate interests of the media service providers that originally provided the audiovisual media services.

Protection  
of the  
language.  
30 of  
118(I)/2010  
36 of  
197(I)/2021

31.(1) In order to serve the objectives of the language policy, the Minister of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth may, when he deems it necessary, with instructions to the Authority, set out, with regard to specific broadcasts or the total of broadcasts of media service providers, general or special criteria governing the quality of the language used and the compliance to the language policy of the Republic.

2 of  
84(I)/2006  
36 of  
197(I)/2021

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1) of this section, television broadcasters shall ensure that subtitles abide by the rules of the language policy of the Republic.

PART VIIIA – [the title is repealed]

European  
works.

31A.-(1) On-demand audiovisual media services under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall secure at least a 30% share of European works in their catalogues and ensure prominence of those works.

38 of  
197(I)/2021

(2) Where the Authority requires media service providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic to contribute financially to the production of European works, including via direct investment in content and contribution to national funds, it may also require media service providers targeting audiences in its territory, but established in other Member States to make such financial contributions, which shall be proportionate and non-discriminatory.

(3) In the case referred to in subsection 2, the financial contribution shall be based only on the revenues earned in the targeted Member States. If the Member State where the provider is established imposes such a financial contribution, it shall take into account any financial contributions imposed by targeted Member States. Any financial contribution shall comply with the European Union law, in particular with State aid rules.

(4) The Authority shall report to the Commission, and such report shall be communicated to the Ministry of Interior, by 19 December 2021 at the latest and every two years thereafter on the implementation of subsections (1) and (2).

(5) The obligation imposed pursuant to subsection (1), as well as the requirement on audiovisual media service providers pursuant to subsection (2), shall not apply to media service providers with a low turnover or a low audience in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Commission under Directive 2018/1808/EU. The Authority may also waive such obligations or requirements where they would be impracticable or unjustified by reason of the nature or theme of the audiovisual media services.

Co-regulation  
and self-  
regulation.  
39 of  
197(I)/2021

31B.-(1) The Authority shall encourage the use of co-regulation and the fostering of self-regulation through codes of conduct adopted at national level in the fields coordinated by this Law and to the extent permitted by the national legislation. Those codes shall:-

- (a) be such that they are broadly accepted by the main stakeholders;
- (b) clearly and unambiguously set out their objectives;

(c) provide for regular, transparent and independent monitoring and evaluation of the achievement of the objectives aimed at; and

(d) provide for effective enforcement, including effective and proportionate sanctions.

(2) The Authority and the Commission may foster self-regulation through European Union codes of conduct drawn up by media service providers, video-sharing platform providers or organisations representing them, in cooperation, as necessary, with other sectors such as industry, trade, professional and consumer associations or organisations. Those codes shall be such that they are broadly accepted by the main stakeholders at European Union level and shall comply with paragraphs (b) to (d) of subsection 1. The European Union codes of conduct shall be without prejudice to the national codes of conduct.

(3) The Authority shall remain free to require media service providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic to comply with more detailed or stricter rules in compliance with this Law and the European Union law, including where the Authority concludes that the codes of conduct or parts thereof have proven not to be sufficiently effective. The Authority shall report such rules to the Commission without undue delay.

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118(I)/2010

## PART IX – PROVISIONS GOVERNING JURISDICTION ISSUES REGARDING TRANSFRONTIER BROADCASTS

Freedom of  
reception of  
audiovisual  
media  
services and  
related  
derogations.

32.-(1) The Authority shall ensure freedom of reception and shall not restrict retransmissions on the territory of the Republic of audiovisual media services from other Member States, for reasons which fall within the fields governed by this Law.

33 of  
118(I)/2010

(2) The Authority may provisionally derogate from subsection (1) of this section where an audiovisual media service provided by a media service provider under the jurisdiction of another Member State manifestly, seriously and gravely infringes section 30(1)(a) or section 29(1) of this Law or prejudices or presents a serious and grave risk of prejudice to public health.

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197(I)/2021

(3) The derogation referred to in subsection (2) above shall be subject to the following conditions:

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197(I)/2021

- (a) during the previous 12 months, the media service provider has on at least two prior occasions already performed one or more instances of conduct described in the subsection (2) above;
- (b) the Authority has notified the media service provider, the Member State having jurisdiction over that provider and the Commission in writing of the alleged infringements and of the proportionate measures it intends to take should any such infringement occur again;
- (c) the Authority has respected the right of defence of the media service provider and, in particular, has given that provider the opportunity to express its views on the alleged infringements; and
- (d) consultations with the Member State having jurisdiction over the media service provider and the Commission have not resulted in an amicable settlement within one (1) month of the Commission's receipt of the notification referred to in paragraph (b).

40 of  
197(I)/2021

(4) The Authority may provisionally derogate from subsection (1) of this section where an audiovisual media service provided by a media service provider under the jurisdiction of another Member State manifestly, seriously and gravely infringes paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 30 or prejudices or presents a serious and grave risk of prejudice to public security, including the safeguarding of national security and defence.

40 of  
197(I)/2021

(5) The derogation referred to in subsection (4) above shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (a) during the previous 12 months the conduct referred to in subsection (4) above occurred at least on one prior occasion;
- (b) The Authority has notified the media service provider, the Member State having jurisdiction over that provider and the Commission in writing of the alleged infringement and of the proportionate measures it intends to take should any such infringement occur again.
- (c) The Authority shall respect the rights of defence of the media service provider concerned and, in particular, give that provider the opportunity to express its views on the alleged infringements.

40 of  
197(I)/2021

(6) Subsections (2) and (4) shall be without prejudice to the application of sections 41A to 41F to the media service provider concerned.

40 of 197(I)/2021 (7) The Authority may, in urgent cases, no later than one (1) month after the alleged infringement, derogate from the conditions laid down in paragraphs (a) and (b) and (c) of subsection (5).

40 of 197(I)/2021 (8) Where subsection (5) is implemented, the measures taken shall be notified in the shortest possible time to the Commission and to the Member State under whose jurisdiction the media service provider falls, indicating the reasons for which the Member State considers that there is urgency.

40 of 197(I)/2021 (9) If the Commission lacks information necessary to take a decision pursuant to subsections (2) or (4,) it shall, within one (1) month of the receipt of the notification, request from the Authority all information necessary to reach that decision.

40 of 197(I)/2021 (10) The Authority and the Commission shall regularly exchange experiences and best practices regarding the procedure set out in this section in the framework of the contact committee and ERGA.

Obligation to observe the legislation. 97(I)/2004 32 A. [Repealed].

Transfrontier broadcasts by Member States of the Council of Europe which have ratified the European Convention on Transfrontier Television. 32B.- (1) The Authority shall ensure freedom of reception and shall not restrict retransmission in the Republic of broadcasts from other States, Members of the Council of Europe which have ratified the European Convention on Transfrontier Television.

34 of 118(I)/2010 (2) The Authority may temporarily suspend the retransmission of broadcasts coming from television broadcasters of States that are Members of the Council of Europe and have ratified the European Convention on Transfrontier Television, for the reasons and pursuant to the procedures provided for in the European Convention on Transfrontier Television Ratifying Law of 1991 and the Protocol Amending the European Convention on Transfrontier Television (Ratifying) Law of 1999.

178(III) of 1991

32C.-(1) The Authority shall remain free to require media service providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic to comply with more detailed or stricter rules in the fields coordinated by Directive 2018/1808/EU, provided that such rules are in compliance with EU legislation.

(2) In case the Authority-

(a) has performed the competences vested in it pursuant to subsection (1) on enacting more detailed or stricter rules of general public interest, and

(b) reckons that a supplier of audiovisual media services who falls within the jurisdiction of another Member State provides audiovisual media services intended wholly or mostly on the territory of the Republic,

It may ask the Member State having jurisdiction to deal with any problems identified in relation to the enforcement of the present subsection and the Republic and the other Member State shall cooperate sincerely and swiftly with a view to achieve mutually a satisfactory solution.

(3) After the Authority receives an evidenced request, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (2), the other Member State having jurisdiction asks the supplier of audiovisual media services to comply with such rules of general public interest.

(4) The other Member State having jurisdiction updates regularly the Authority with regard to the measures taken in order to deal with the problems identified.

(5) Within two (2) months from receiving the request, the Member State having jurisdiction updates the Authority and the Commission with regard to the results observed and it explains the reasons in case of failure to find a solution.

(6) The Republic or the other Member State may ask the contact committee to consider the case at any time.

(7) The Authority may take appropriate measures against this supplier of audiovisual media services, provided that-

(a) It reckons that the results achieved after enforcing the provisions of subsection (2) are not satisfactory and

(b) It has presented evidence proving that this supplier of audiovisual media services is settled in the Member State having jurisdiction, with a view to bypass the stricter rules in the sectors regulated by the present Law, which would be applicable if this supplier was settled in the Republic and such evidence shall make possible the grounded evidencing of bypassing the stricter law without being necessary to prove the intention of the supplier of audiovisual media services to bypass such stricter rules.

(8) The measures provided by subsection (7) have to be objectively necessary to be enforceable in such a way that it shall be non-discriminatory and be according to their envisaged objectives.

(9) The Authority may take measures pursuant to the provisions of subsection (7), only if the following conditions are met:

(a) It has communicated to the Commission and to the Member State, in which the supplier of audiovisual media services is settled, its intention to take such measures, citing also the reasons on which its stance is based

(b) It has respected the rights of defence of the concerned supplier of audiovisual media services and in particular, it has given to this supplier of audiovisual media services the possibility to express his views with regard to the alleged bypass and to the measures intended to be taken by the Authority in accordance with the provisions of the present Law and

(c) The Commission has decided, after asking ERGA to form an opinion, that the measures are compatible with the European Union's law and in particular that the estimates of the Authority, which takes measures pursuant to subsection (2) and (7) of the present section, are truly grounded.

(10) Within three (3) months from receiving the notification provided for under paragraph (a) of subsection (9), the Commission decides whether these measures are compatible with the European Union's law and if the Commission decides that such measures are not compatible with the European Union's law, it requires the Authority to avoid enacting the intended measures.

(11) If the Commission does not have the necessary information to make a decision in accordance with subsection (10), it asks the Authority, within one (1) month from receiving the notification on all necessary information required to make such decision.



(12) The Authority ensures that, with the appropriate means in the framework of the national law of the Republic, the suppliers of audiovisual media services who fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic comply effectively with the present Law.

156(I) of  
2004  
97(I) of  
2007

(13) Unless otherwise specified in the present Law, the Law on Certain Aspects of Information Society Services, in particular Electronic Commerce, and Related Matters, shall become effective and, in the event of conflict between a provision of that Law and a provision of the present Law, the provisions of the present Law prevail unless otherwise specified by the present Law.

Conditions  
and  
television  
broadcasts  
exclusively  
intended for  
the territory  
of the  
Republic.

32D.-(1) Without prejudice to section 32C, the Authority may, with due regard for European Union law, lay down conditions other than those laid down in subsection (2) of section 33 and section 34 in respect of television broadcasts exclusively intended for the territory of the Republic which cannot be received, directly or indirectly, by the public in one or more other Member States.

34 of  
118(I)/2010

35 of  
118(I)/2010

## PART IXA – PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO VIDEO-SHARING PLATFORM SERVICES

Obligation  
of  
compliance  
with this  
Law by  
video-  
sharing  
platform  
services  
under the  
jurisdiction  
of the  
Republic.

32E.-(1) For the purposes of this Law, a video-sharing platform provider established on the territory of the Republic, in accordance with section 2 of the Law on Certain Aspects of Information Society Services, in particular Electronic Commerce, and Related Matters, shall be under the jurisdiction of the Republic.

(2) A video-sharing platform provider which is not established on the territory of the Republic pursuant to subsection (1) above, shall be deemed to be established on the territory of the Republic for the purposes of this Law, as long as the video-sharing platform provider-

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197(I)/2021

- (a) has a parent undertaking or a subsidiary undertaking that is established on the territory of the Republic; or
- (b) is part of a group and another undertaking of that group is established on the territory of the Republic.

For the purposes of this section-

- (a) “parent undertaking” means an undertaking which controls one or more subsidiary undertakings;
- (b) “subsidiary undertaking” means an undertaking controlled by a parent undertaking, including any subsidiary undertaking of an ultimate parent undertaking;
- (c) “group” means a parent undertaking, all its subsidiary undertakings and all other undertakings having economic and legal organisational links to them.

(3) For the purposes of applying subsection (2), where the parent undertaking, the subsidiary undertaking or the other undertakings of the group are each established in different Member States, the video-sharing platform provider shall be deemed to be established in the Member State where its parent undertaking is established or, in the absence of such an establishment, in the Member State where its subsidiary undertaking is established or, in the absence of such an establishment, in the Member State where the other undertaking of the group is established.

(4) For the purposes of applying subsection (3), where there are several subsidiary undertakings and each of them is established in a different Member State, the video-sharing platform provider shall be deemed to be established in the Member State where one of the subsidiary undertakings first began its activity, provided that it maintains a stable and effective link with the economy of that Member State.

(5) Where there are several other undertakings which are part of the group and each of them is established in a different Member State, the video-sharing platform provider shall be deemed to be established in the Member State where one of these undertakings first began its activity, provided that it maintains a stable and effective link with the economy of that Member State.

(6) For the purposes of this Law, sections 2, 5, 6, 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the Law on Certain Aspects of Information Society Services, in particular Electronic Commerce, and Related Matters shall apply to video-sharing platform providers deemed to be established in the Republic in accordance with subsection (2) of this section.

(7) The video-sharing platform providers which intend to be established in the Republic shall inform in advance the Authority on their intention:

197(I)/2021

In the event of an existing video-sharing platform, the provider thereof shall inform the Authority within one (1) month in advance of the date of entry into force of the Radio and Television Broadcasters (Amending) Law (No.2) of 2021.

(8) The Authority shall establish and maintain an up-to-date list of the video-sharing platform providers established or deemed to be established on the territory of the Republic and indicate on which of the criteria set out in subsections (1) to (5) its jurisdiction is based. The Authority shall communicate that list, including any updates thereto, to the Commission and specifies the information submitted by the video-sharing platform providers.

(9) Where, in applying this section, the Republic and any other Member State concerned do not agree on which Member State has jurisdiction, they shall bring the matter to the Commission's attention without undue delay.

Video-sharing platform services.

42 of 197(I)/2021

32F.-(1) Without prejudice to sections 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the Law on Certain Aspects of Information Society Services, in particular Electronic Commerce, and Related Matters, video-sharing platform providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall take appropriate measures to protect:

- (a) minors from programmes, user-generated videos and audiovisual commercial communications which may impair their physical, mental or moral development in accordance with subsections (1) to (4) of section 29 of this Law;
- (b) the general public from programmes, user-generated videos and audiovisual commercial communications containing incitement to violence or hatred directed against any person, a group of persons or a member of a group of persons in such a manner as to violate the fundamental rights protected by the Constitution of the Republic and/or the rights protected under article 21 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union;
- (c) the general public from programmes, user-generated videos and audiovisual commercial communications containing content the dissemination of which

91(I) of 2014  
105(I) of 2014

134(I) of 2011  
45(I) of 2015  
94(I) of 2016  
30(I) of 2017

constitutes an activity which is a criminal offence under European Union law, namely public provocation to commit a terrorist offence as set out in section 13 of the Combatting of Terrorism and Victim Protection Law, offences concerning child pornography as set out in section 8(3) of the Prevention and Combating of Sexual Abuse, Sexual Exploitation of Children and Child Pornography Law, and offences concerning racism and xenophobia as set out in section 3 of the Law on Combating Certain Forms and Expressions of Racism and Xenophobia by means of Criminal Law.

(2) Video-sharing platform providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall comply with the requirements set out in section 30E(1) with respect to audiovisual commercial communications that are marketed, sold or arranged by those video-sharing platform providers.

(3) Video-sharing platform providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall take appropriate measures to comply with the requirements set out in section 30E(1) with respect to audiovisual commercial communications that are not marketed, sold or arranged by those video-sharing platform providers, taking into account the limited control exercised by those video-sharing platforms over those audiovisual commercial communications.

(4) Video-sharing platform providers shall clearly inform users where programmes and user-generated videos contain audiovisual commercial communications, provided that such communications are declared under paragraph (c) of subsection (8) or the provider has knowledge of that fact.

(5) The Authority shall encourage the use of co-regulation and the fostering of self-regulation through codes of conduct as provided for in section 31B(1) aiming at effectively reducing the exposure of children to audiovisual commercial communications for foods and beverages containing nutrients and substances with a nutritional or physiological effect, in particular fat, trans-fatty acids, salt or sodium and sugars, of which excessive intakes in the overall diet are not recommended. Those codes shall aim to provide that such audiovisual commercial communications do not emphasise the positive quality of the nutritional aspects of such foods and beverages.

(6) For the purposes of subsections (1) to (5), video-sharing platform providers shall take the appropriate measures which shall be determined in light of the nature of the content in question, the harm it may cause, the characteristics of the category of persons to be protected as well as the rights and legitimate interests at stake, including those of the video-sharing platform providers and the users having created or uploaded the content as well as the general public interest.

(7) Video-sharing platform providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall apply the measures provided for by subsection (6) above. Those measures shall be practicable and proportionate, taking into account the size of the video-sharing platform service and the nature of the service that is provided. Those measures shall not lead to any ex-ante control measures or upload-filtering of content which do not comply with section 18 of the Law on Certain Aspects of Information Society Services, in particular Electronic Commerce, and Related Matters.

For the purposes of the protection of minors, provided for in paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of this section, the most harmful content shall be subject to the strictest access control measures.

(8) The measures mentioned in subsections (1), (3), (6) and (7) above shall consist of, as appropriate:

(a) including and applying in the terms and conditions of the video-sharing platform services the requirements referred to in subsection (1);

(b) including and applying in the terms and conditions of the video-sharing platform services the requirements set out in section 30E(1) for audiovisual commercial communications that are not marketed, sold or arranged by the video-sharing platform providers;

(c) having a functionality for users who upload user-generated videos to declare whether such videos contain audiovisual commercial communications as far as they know or can be reasonably expected to know;

(d) establishing and operating transparent and user-friendly mechanisms for users of a video-sharing platform to report or flag to the video-sharing platform provider concerned the content referred to in subsection 1 provided on its platform;

(e) establishing and operating systems through which video-sharing platform providers explain to users of video-sharing platforms what effect has been given to the reporting and flagging referred to in paragraph (d);

(f) establishing and operating age verification systems for users of video-sharing platforms with respect to content which may impair the physical, mental or moral development of minors;

(g) establishing and operating easy-to-use systems allowing users of video-sharing platforms to rate the content referred to in subsection (1);

(h) providing for parental control systems that are under the control of the end-user with respect to content which may impair the physical, mental or moral development of minors;

(i) establishing and operating transparent, easy-to-use and effective procedures for the handling and resolution of users' complaints to the video-sharing platform provider in relation to the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraphs (d) to (h);

(j) providing for effective media literacy measures and tools and raising users' awareness of those measures and tools.

(9) Personal data of minors collected or otherwise generated by video-sharing platform providers pursuant to paragraphs (f) and (h) of subsection (8) shall not be processed for commercial purposes, such as direct marketing, profiling and behaviourally targeted advertising.

(10) For the purposes of the implementation of the measures referred to in subsections (1), (3) and (6) to (9) of this section, the Authority shall encourage the use of co-regulation as provided for in section 31B(1).

(11)(a) The Authority shall establish the necessary mechanisms to assess the appropriateness of the measures referred to in subsections (1), (3), (6), (7) and (8) taken by video-sharing platform providers pursuant to paragraph (b).

(b) Video-sharing platform providers under the jurisdiction of the Republic shall submit to the Authority, in the manner and at the time determined by the latter, information regarding:-

(i) the number of complaints received per category, pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection (1), whether in regard of programmes in user-generated videos or in audiovisual commercial communications;

(ii) the number of complaints answered per category, pursuant to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection (1), whether in regard of programmes in user-

generated videos or in audiovisual commercial communications, as well as the time period within which those complaints were answered;

- (iii) the number of cases for which the user resorted to an out-of-court redress mechanism;
- (iv) the reports or flags made by users regarding a harmful or illegal content or the content labelling;
- (v) the parental control and age verification systems;
- (vi) the measures and tools adopted for media literacy;
- (vii) any other information the Authority shall determine by decision thereof:

The Authority shall enforce any other necessary mechanisms to assess the appropriateness of the measures mentioned in subsections (6), (7) and (8), taken by the video-sharing platform providers.

(12)(a) The Authority may impose on video-sharing platform providers measures that are more detailed or stricter than the measures referred to in subsection (8) of this section.

(b) When adopting such measures, the Authority shall comply with the requirements set out by the Republic's applicable law, such as those set out in sections 15, 16, 17 and 18 of the Law on Certain Aspects of Information Society Services, in particular Electronic Commerce, and Related Matters, and in section 11 of the Prevention and Combating of Sexual Abuse, Sexual Exploitation of Children and Child Pornography Law.

(13) The procedure for compliance with subsections (1) to (12) of this section shall be determined by decision of the Authority.

(14)(a) The Republic shall ensure that out-of-court redress mechanisms are available for the settlement of disputes between users and video-sharing platform providers relating to the application of subsections (1) and (6) to (9).

(b) The mechanisms mentioned in paragraph (a) above shall enable disputes to be settled impartially and shall not deprive the user of the legal protection afforded by the law of the Republic.

(15) Users can assert their rights before a competent District Court in relation to video-sharing platform providers pursuant to subsections (1) and (6) to (9).

(16) The Authority and the Commission may foster self-regulation through European Union codes of conduct referred to in section 31B(2).

Imposition of administrative sanctions on video-sharing platform providers.

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32G.-(1) The Authority shall impose administrative sanctions to the video-sharing platform providers which are under the jurisdiction of the Republic for violation of this Law and the Regulations issued thereunder, particularly for the violation of-

- (a) subsection (7) of section 32E of this Law;
- (b) section 32F of this Law;
- (c) circulars, instructions or recommendations issued pursuant to section 3(2)(o);

(2) For the purposes of this section, “administrative sanction” shall mean:

- (a) recommendation;
- (b) warning;
- (c) temporary suspension of the operation of the video-sharing platform service provided by the video-sharing platform provider for a period not exceeding three (3) months;
- (d) permanent suspension of the operation of the video-sharing platform service provided by the video-sharing platform provider; or
- (e) imposition of an administrative fine, the sum of which may not exceed five per cent (5%) of the turnover of the video-sharing platform provider, which was achieved during the financial year prior to the violation, as presented in its financial statements, in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards as adopted by the European Union and pursuant to the Companies Law and the Regulations issued thereunder; or imposition of an administrative fine, the sum of which may not exceed five hundred thousand Euro (€500,000).



(3) Those administrative sanctions shall be imposed by the Authority by taking into account the nature, gravity, frequency and the duration of the violation, with due regard to the principle of proportionality.

(4)(a) The Authority shall examine of its own motion or following requests matters regarding violations of Part IXA.

(b) Before issuing a decision on the imposition of an administrative fine or other administrative sanction, the Authority shall offer the video-sharing platform provider or a representative thereof the right to be heard, and shall take into consideration their submitted requests for making a decision.

(c) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (b) above, the Authority shall issue a justified decision, signed by its Chairman and notified to the video-sharing platform provider.

(5) The Authority's decision on imposing an administrative fine or other administrative sanction is subject to appeal to the Administrative Court in accordance with Section 146 of the Constitution.

(6) An administrative fine imposed by the Authority, pursuant to this Law and the Regulations issued thereunder, shall be collected by the Authority. If such administrative fine fails to be paid, the Authority shall take judicial measures and the amount due shall be collected as a civil debt payable to the Republic.

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118(I)/2010  
43 of  
197(I)/ 2021

## PART X – TELEVISION ADVERTISING AND TEleshopping

Television  
advertising  
and  
teleshop-  
ping.  
36 of  
118(I)/2010

33.-(1) Television broadcasters falling within the jurisdiction of the Republic should meet the requirements below:

(a) Television advertising and teleshopping are readily recognisable and distinct from the editorial content and without prejudice to the use of new advertising techniques, television broadcasters should ensure that television advertising and teleshopping are clearly distinct from the other parts of the service provided by the programme through audio, visual and/or space media:

44 of 197(I)/  
202

It is presumed that the isolated television advertising and teleshopping spots shall be admissible in sports events:

It is furthermore presumed that the isolated television advertising and teleshopping spots except from the cases of the transmission of sports events, they are transmitted only exceptionally.

(b) If the programmes are interrupted by television advertising or teleshopping, the integrity of programmes is not affected, considering the natural breaks, the duration and the nature of the programme, as well as the rights of the beneficiaries.

44 of 197(I)/  
2021

(2) Television broadcasters have the obligation to ensure compliance with the following restrictions:

(a) The transmission of films made for television, excluding series, serials and documentaries, as well as the transmission of cinematographic works and news programmes may be interrupted by television advertising, teleshopping and or both, once for each scheduled period lasting at least thirty (30) minutes.

(b) The transmission of children's programmes may be interrupted by television advertising, once for each scheduled period lasting at least thirty (30) minutes, provided that the scheduled duration of the programme is greater than thirty (30) minutes. The transmission of teleshopping spots is prohibited during children's programmes.

(3) The following prohibitions shall apply:

(a) No television advertising or teleshopping shall be inserted during religious services;

(b) television advertising for medicines and medical treatments available only on prescription under the Medicines for Human Use (Control of Quality, Supply and Pricing) Law of 2001 to 2010, as amended or replaced at the time, by television broadcasters which fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic, shall be prohibited;

70(I) of 2001  
83(I) of 2002  
35(I) of 2004  
78(I) of 2004  
100(I) of 2004  
263(I) of 2004  
13(I) of 2005  
28(I) of 2005  
87(I) of 2005  
122(I) of 2005  
20(I) of 2006  
75(I) of 2006  
104(I) of 2006  
20(I) of 2007  
76(I) of 2007  
25(I) of 2010

9 of 53(I)/  
2019

44 of  
197(I)/2021

(c) Teleshopping of medicines for which a trading licence is required by virtue of the provisions of the Medicines for Human Use (Control of Quality, Supply and Pricing) Law or pursuant to the Regulations issued by virtue of the Law, as well as teleshopping of medical treatments by television broadcasters falling within the jurisdiction of the Republic.

44 of 197(I)/  
2021

(4) Television advertising and teleshopping of alcoholic beverages shall comply with the following conditions:

(a) it may not be aimed specifically at minors or, in particular, depict minors consuming these beverages;

(b) it shall not link the consumption of alcohol to enhanced physical performance or to driving;

(c) it shall not create the impression that the consumption of alcohol contributes towards social or sexual success;

(d) it shall not claim that alcohol has therapeutic qualities or that it is a stimulant, a tranquilizer or a sedative;

(e) it shall not encourage immoderate consumption of alcohol or present abstinence or moderation thereof in a negative light;

(f) it shall not place emphasis on high alcoholic content as being a positive quality of the beverages.

3 of 174(I)  
/2020.

(5)(a) Children's toys television advertising is daily prohibited from 06.00 until 21.00 inclusive:

It is presumed that, despite the remaining provisions of the present Law, the total time duration of children's toys television advertising may not be greater than three and half (3,5) minutes in each given clock hour:

It is furthermore presumed that the provisions of the present paragraph are applicable also to television broadcasters exclusively dedicated to advertising and teleshopping.

(b) Without prejudice to the provisions of the present Law and pursuant to the Regulations on advertising issued by virtue of this Law, the Authority may require in special cases the immediate withdrawal, modification and or interruption of the transmission of children's toys advertising, if they are deemed harmful for minors and or damage may be caused to minors and or for objective reasons of public interest and in such a case, deviation from the prescribed procedure on considering infringements in accordance with the Regulations on Radio and Television Stations may be produced. The reasons for which such requirement is deemed necessary are notified to the concerned television broadcaster, according to the case, the soonest possible and its full compliance is required within twenty four (24) hours from being notified the relevant decision of the Authority:

It is presumed that in case of failure to comply with the aforementioned decision of the Authority, the Authority may impose sanctions based on the remaining provisions of the present Law and of the Regulations issued by virtue of this Law:

It is furthermore presumed that the Authority may consider any possible infringements of the present subsection based on the remaining provisions of the present Law and the issued Regulations by virtue of this Law on television advertising.

(6)(a) Game of chance and betting television advertising is prohibited from 06.00 until 21.00 inclusive daily.

(b) Despite prohibition provided in paragraph (a), betting television advertising is allowed during advertising breaks of live television transmission of a sports event as well as fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start or after the end of live transmission of a sports event:

It is presumed that for the purposes of the present paragraph, the term "sports event" has the meaning given by the term "events" in section 2 of the Cyprus Sports Organisation Law.

(c) Despite the remaining provisions of the present Law, the total duration of game of chance and betting television advertising may not be greater than one and half (1,5) minute in each given clock hour.

(d) Without prejudice to the provisions of the present Law and the issued Regulations by virtue of this Law on advertising, the Authority may require in special cases the immediate withdrawal, modification and or interruption of the transmission of game of chance and betting advertising provided that they are deemed harmful for minors or damage may be caused to minors and or for objective reasons of public interest and in such a case, deviation from the prescribed procedure on considering infringements in accordance with the Regulations on Radio and Television Stations may be produced. the reasons for which such requirement is deemed necessary are notified to the concerned television broadcaster, according to the case, the soonest possible and its full compliance is required within twenty four (24) hours from being notified the relevant decision of the Authority:

It is presumed that in case of failure to comply with the aforementioned decision of the Authority, the Authority may impose sanctions based on the remaining provisions of the present Law and the issued Regulations by virtue of this Law.

It is furthermore presumed that the Authority may consider possible infringements of the present subsection, based on the remaining provisions of the present Law and the issued Regulations by virtue of this Law on television advertising.

6 of  
73(I)/2011

(7) The broadcasting of advertising spots of tele-services of a sensual content and teledating shall be allowed only between 00.00 and 05.00.

6 of  
73(I)/2011

(8) The broadcasting of tele-competitions and related programmes the outcome of which depends on chance shall be allowed only between 22.00 and 05.00:

Provided that televoting and the dispatch of electronic messages generally and in particular for purposes of participation in a programme shall be exempted from the provisions of this subsection.

6 of  
73(I)/2011

(9) Broadcasts or programmes dedicated to electronic bets and online casino games (online casino), including, inter alia, online roulette and online poker as well as horserace betting, with or without the interactive participation of viewers or audience, shall be prohibited from being broadcast.

Duration of television advertising and teleshopping

34.-(1) The proportion of television advertising spots and teleshopping spots within the period between 6:00 and 18:00 shall not exceed 20% of that period. The same proportion applies for the period between 18:00 and 24:00.

36 of 118(I)/2010

(2) Subsection 1 shall not apply to:

45 of 197(I)/2021

- (a) announcements made by the television broadcaster in connection with its own programmes and ancillary products directly derived from those programmes, or with programmes and audiovisual media services from other entities belonging to the same broadcasting group;
- (b) sponsorship announcements;
- (c) product placements;
- (d) neutral frames between editorial content and television advertising or teleshopping spots, and between individual spots.

Teleshopping windows. 36 of 118(I)/2010

34A.-(1) Teleshopping windows shall be clearly identified as such by optical and acoustic means and shall be of a minimum uninterrupted duration of 15 minutes.

46 of 197(I)/2021

(2) Teleshopping windows shall not be allowed to exceed eight daily, the total duration of which shall not exceed three hours daily and shall be clearly identified as such by optical and acoustic means.

Application of certain sections to television broadcasters devoted to advertising-teleshopping 36 of 118(I)/2010 10 of 53(I)/2019 47 of 197(I)/2021

34B. The present Law, with the exception of the provisions of section 27, of the subsections (1)(b) and (2), of section 33 and of section 34, is enforced mutatis mutandis, upon television broadcasters exclusively dedicated to advertising and teleshopping.

Application of certain sections to television broadcasters devoted to self-promotion. 36 of 118(I)/2010 11 of 53(I)/2019 47 of 197(I)/2021

34C. The present Law, with the exception of the provisions of section 27, of the subsections (1)(b) and (2), of section 33 and of section 34, is enforced mutatis mutandis, upon television broadcasters exclusively dedicated to self-promotion.

Special provisions regarding political advertisements during a pre-election period of presidential or Parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament.  
3 of 85(I)/2006  
3 of 17(I)/2009  
37 of 118(I)/2010

34D-(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of the basic law or any Regulations issued thereunder, the broadcasting of a political advertisement by the television or radio broadcasters during a pre-election period of presidential or parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament shall be allowed, provided the following conditions are met:

(a) Before the broadcasting of a political advertisement, an optical and acoustic warning shall be used in order to clearly distinguish it from the remaining programmes and other advertisements, as a paid political advertisement;

(b) in the case of presidential elections, the broadcasting of a political advertisement shall only be allowed in favour of the candidates and the candidate in favour of whom the political advertisement is broadcast shall be clearly defined;

(c) in the case of parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament, the broadcasting of a political advertisement shall only be allowed in favour of the candidates and it shall clearly define the candidate in favour of whom the political advertisement is broadcast;

(d) political advertisement shall not constitute a negative advertisement within the meaning given to this term by section 2;

(e) the television or radio broadcaster shall broadcast the political advertisement on the same economic or other conditions to all candidates in the case of presidential elections and to all candidates in the case of parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament, as the case may be;

(f) the television or radio broadcaster shall ensure, as much as possible, that the conditions of equal percentage of time of political advertisement amongst candidates in the case of presidential elections and amongst candidates in the case of parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament, as the case may be, both within the family zone and outside it as well as when this is broadcast during prime television time and prime radio time.

Κεφ. 300 Α.  
46 of 1959  
20 of 1960  
21 of 1960  
27 of 1961  
69 of 1961  
26 of 1962  
39 of 1963  
61 of 1972  
52 of 1977  
21 of 1979  
68(Ι) of 1985  
212 of 1987  
284 of 1987  
9 of 1988  
204 of 1991  
238 of 1991  
38(Ι) of 1995  
8 (Ι) of 1998  
24(Ι) of 2000  
7(Ι) of 2001  
10(Ι) of 2001  
60(Ι) of 2001  
83(Ι) of 2001  
23(Ι) of 2003  
116(Ι) of 2003  
96(Ι) of 2004

3 of 17(Ι)/2009

3 of 17(Ι)2009  
37 of 118(Ι)2010

3 of 17(Ι)2009  
37 of 118(Ι)2010

(2)(a) The total available time for political advertisement for each presidential candidate throughout the pre-election period for all television broadcasters in total, including television broadcasts operating under the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation Law ; Regulations issued thereunder, may not exceed one-hundred minutes:

Provided that where on the day of the presidential elections none of the candidates is elected as president and a new voting shall be held under the Elections (President and Vice-President of the Republic) Law, on a subsequent date, the time specified in this paragraph from the date of the first election to the date of the new election to be held shall not exceed twenty-five minutes.

37of 1959  
41 of 1959  
43of 1959  
81 of 1982  
19 of 1988  
108(I) of 1992  
86(I) of 1996  
18(I) of 1997  
91(I) of 1997  
1(I) of 1998  
196(I) of 2002

(b) The total available time for political advertisement for each candidate in the case of parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament throughout the pre-election period for all television broadcasters in total, including television broadcasts operating under the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation Law and the Regulations issued thereunder, may not exceed one-hundred minutes and thirty minutes when the candidate is standing in the elections individually.

(c) The total available time for political advertisement for each presidential candidate throughout the pre-election period by all radio broadcasters in total, including radio broadcasts operating under the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation Law and the Regulations issued thereunder, shall not exceed sixty minutes:

Provided that where on the day of the presidential elections none of the candidates is elected as president and a new voting shall be held on a subsequent date, the time specified in this paragraph from the date of the first voting to the date of the new voting to be held shall not exceed twenty-five minutes.

(d) The total available time for political advertisement for each candidate in the case of parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament throughout the pre-election period for all radio broadcasters in total, including radio broadcasts operating under the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation Law and the Regulations issued thereunder, may not exceed sixty minutes and twelve minutes when the candidate stands in the elections individually.

37 of  
118(I)/2010

37 of  
118(I)/2010

37 of  
118(I)/2010  
3 of  
17(I)/2009



3 of  
17(I)/2009 (3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (2), the broadcasting of a political advertisement fifty-five hours prior to the time of commencement of the voting on the day of the presidential or parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament, as the case may be, shall be prohibited.

3 of  
17(I)/2009  
37 of  
118(I)/2010 (4) The candidates in the case of presidential elections and the candidates in the case of parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament or the independent candidate, as the case may be, shall, five days prior to the transmission of the first political advertisement, submit to the Authority their political advertising registration and transmission schedule, as agreed with the television or radio broadcasters.

37 of  
118(I)/2010 (5) Prior to the transmission of any political advertisement, each television or radio broadcaster shall promptly notify the Authority of the agreement reached concerning the transmission and content thereof as well as its transmission time.

37 of  
118(I)/2010 (6) (a) In the event that the Authority establishes that a political advertisement has covered the time defined under subsection (2) of this section, it shall issue instructions to television or radio broadcasters not to transmit further any such political advertisement, and the television or radio broadcaster shall be under obligation to refrain from further transmitting any such advertisement.

37 of  
118(I)/2010 (b) In the event that the television or radio broadcaster violates the provisions of this section, the provisions of paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section 3 shall apply.

(7) For the purposes of this section –

3 of  
17(I)/2009 “pre-election period” means the time period of forty days prior to the date on which the presidential or parliamentary elections or elections of the European Parliament shall be held, as the case may be, and in the case of presidential elections during which none of the candidates is elected as president and a new voting shall be held on a subsequent date, it shall also include the period from the date of the first elections to the date of the new elections to be held;

37 of  
118(I)/2010 “station” [Deleted].

37 of  
118(I)/2010  
48 of  
197(I)/2021 “television or radio broadcaster” means a television or a national radio broadcaster or a local radio broadcaster;

“candidate” means:

3 of  
17(I)/2009

(a) in the case of presidential elections, a presidential candidate within the meaning of the Elections (President and Vice-President of the Republic) Law;

(b) in the case of parliamentary elections:

72 of 1979  
73 of 1980  
16 of 1981  
124 of 1985  
164 of 1985  
297 of 1987  
107(I) of 1992  
71(I) of 1995  
11(I) of 1996  
118(I) of 1996  
101(I) of 1997  
45(I) of 2001  
56(I) of 2001  
209(I) of 2002  
226(I) of 2002  
3(I) of 2003

(i) a person who stands as a candidate under the Election of Members of the House of Representatives Law, in the event that this person stands in the elections individually; or

(ii) the combination of a party or the combination of an association of more cooperating parties or the combination of independent candidates where the candidates under the Election of Members of the House of Representatives Law stand or shall stand in the election in combination; and

3 of  
17(I)/2009

(c) in the case of elections of the European Parliament:

10(I) of 2004  
202(I) of  
2004  
207(I) of  
2004

(i) a person standing as a candidate under the Election of Members of the European Parliament Law where such person stands in the election individually; or

(ii) the combination of a party or the combination of an association of more cooperating parties or the combination of independent candidates where the candidates under the Election of Members of the European Parliament Law stand or shall stand in the election in combination:

Provided that where for the purposes of this section a specific action is required on behalf of a candidate, in the case of a combination, a person legally authorised to represent such person shall act on his behalf;

3 of  
17(I)/2009

“prime television time” means the time period of broadcast of a television broadcaster between 19:00 and 22:00;

37 of  
118(I)/2010

“prime radio time” means the time period of broadcast of a radio broadcaster between 6:00 and 9:00 and 12:00 and 14:00.

Sponsorship  
of program.  
38 of  
118(I)/2010

35. [Repealed].

## PART XI - FISCAL PROVISIONS

- Budget.
- 36.-(1) The Authority shall have its own budget of revenue and expenditure.
- (2) The budget shall be drawn up by the 1<sup>st</sup> October each year and shall be subject to the approval of the Council of Ministers and the House of Representatives.
- (3) The budget shall cover the financial programme of the Authority for each financial year commencing on the 1<sup>st</sup> January and ending on the 31<sup>st</sup> December:
- Provided that the first financial year of the Authority shall commence on the day of its operation and end on the 31<sup>st</sup> December of the same year.
- (4) The budget shall be drawn up and present the breakdown of the allocations in the revenue and expenditure table in the same way as the State budget.

Keeping of  
books.

- 37.-(1) The Authority shall keep proper books and accounts for its activities as set out by the Auditor-General of the Republic.
- (2) As regards the financial management of each financial year, the Authority shall see that a report is drawn up in the manner set out by the Auditor-General of the Republic.
- (3) The accounts of the Authority shall be audited by the Auditor-General of the Republic.
- (4) Within one month from the audit of its accounts, the Authority shall submit to the Council of Ministers and the House of Representatives the financial management report

together with a copy of the report of the Auditor-General of the Republic, for information purposes.

Revenues  
of the  
Authority.

38.-(1) The Authority shall keep a separate Fund to which the following shall be deposited -

- (a) fees deriving from the granting of licences;
- (b) fees deriving from the examination of applications for the granting, renewal or amendment of licences;
- (c) every sponsorship or other revenue paid to, or received by, the Authority;
- (d) revenues deriving from the imposition of administrative fines to media service providers pursuant to section 3 of this Law;
- (e) all revenue deriving from the Authority's assets;
- (f) any government grant.

39 of  
118(I)/2010

(2) The following shall be paid out of the Authority's Fund -

- (a) all salaries of its personnel and remuneration of its Members;
- (b) the Authority's subscriptions to other related organisations;
- (c) the interest of any loan obtained by the Authority;
- (d) any other amount lawfully owed by the Authority.

(3) The Authority's funds which are not immediately required for its lawful payments may be invested in any manner decided by the Authority.

Loans.

39. The Authority may, for the achievement of its goals, obtain loans on such terms and from such sources as per its financial strength and capacity.

Expropriation and sale of property.

40.(a) The Authority shall have the power to acquire property with compulsory expropriation with a view to serving its objectives under the provisions of the Compulsory Expropriation Law in force at the time.

(b) The Authority may not dispose of or encumber in any way the immovable property owned by it without the prior approval of the Council of Ministers.

Exemption from taxation.

41. The Authority shall be exempted from the obligation to pay -

(a) any fees or duties paid under the customs legislation in force at the time for any objects or materials, provided that these are imported by or on behalf of the Authority to serve its objectives;

(b) any stamp duties paid under the Stamps Duties legislation in force at the time;

(c) any tax on its income which is paid under the Income Tax legislation in force at the time.

49 of 197(I)/2021

**PART XIA – POWERS OF THE AUTHORITY TO MONITOR THE BROADCASTERS AND APPLY THE LAW – CRIMINAL OFFENCES – RIGHTS OF AFFECTED PARTIES**

Imposition of administrative sanctions. 22 of 97(I)/2004 40 of 118(I)/2010

41A. (1) The Authority shall impose administrative sanctions to media service providers pursuant to the provisions of this Part for violation of the provisions of this Law and of the Regulations issued thereunder, and in particular for violation of:

(a) the Journalists’ Code of Practice as defined in Regulations following a relevant application by the Journalistic Ethics Commission (Cyprus Media Complaints Commission);

50 of 197(I)/2021

(b) the Code for Advertising, teleshopping messages and sponsored programmes as defined in Regulations;

40 of 118(I)/2010

(c) the provisions of sections 29 and 30;

(d) the provisions of section 44 on the right of reply of this Law;

- (e) the terms of the licence;
- (f) the provisions of section 24 on the payment of any fees imposed under this Law;
- (g) circulars, instructions or recommendations issued under paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 3 of this Law.

40 of 118(I)/  
2010

(2) For the purposes of this section, “administrative sanction” shall mean a recommendation, warning, temporary suspension of the operation of a television or radio broadcaster for a period not exceeding three months, revocation of the licence of operation as set out in section 25 of this Law or imposition of an administrative fine under section 41B.

Administrati-  
ve fine.  
41 of  
118(I)/2010  
51 of  
197(I)/2021

41B. (1) The Authority may impose an administrative fine for each day of violation of the provisions of this Law or of the Regulations issued thereunder, the amount of which may not exceed the following amounts:

- (a) 8.500 Euro, for violation by a television broadcaster;
- (b) 3.400 Euro, for violation by a national radio broadcaster;
- (c) 1.700 Euro, for violation by a local radio broadcaster;
- (d) 850 Euro, for violation by a small local radio broadcaster.

51 of  
197(I)/2021

51 of  
197(I)/2021

41 of  
118(I)/2010

(2) The above administrative fines shall be imposed by the Authority taking into account the nature, the importance, the frequency and the duration of the violation in accordance with the principle of proportionality.

(3) In the event of failure to pay the administrative fines imposed by this Law, the Authority shall take judicial action and collect the amount due as a civil debt owed to the Republic.

Issue of  
interim  
orders.  
42 of  
118(I)/2010

41C. (1) In the event of violation of any provision of this Law and of the Regulations issued thereunder and notwithstanding the imposition of any administrative sanction, the Authority may request by an application to the Court, the issuing of an injunction or a restraining order, including an interim order, against any media service provider-that is involved in or is responsible for, this violation, at the discretion of the Authority.

(2) The Court before which any application is examined under the above subsection shall have power, subject to the provisions of the Civil Procedures Rules Law, the Courts of Justice Laws of 1960 to (no.2) of 1999 and the Civil Procedure Administrative Regulations, to issue an injunction or a restraining order, including an interim order, ordering –

(a) the immediate cessation and/or non-repetition of the violation committed, and/or

(b) the taking of such corrective measures at the discretion of the Court within a specified deadline to lift the illegal condition that created the relevant violation, and/or

(c) the publication of the whole or part of the relevant Court’s decision or the publication of a corrective announcement with a view to eliminating any ongoing effects of the violation, and/or

(d) any other action or measure which may be deemed necessary or fit under the circumstances of the specific case.

Criminal  
offences.  
22 of  
97(I)/2004  
43 of  
118(I)/2010

41D. (1) A person who:

(a) provides audiovisual media services without the Authority’s permission or in violation of the terms defined in his licence,

43 of  
118(I)/2010

(b) intentionally and systematically hinders the transmission of a licensed television or radio broadcaster,

43 of  
118(I)/2010

(c) intentionally seeks to influence a Member of the Authority or of the Radiotelevision Advisory Committee in the exercise of their duties,

shall be guilty of an offence and, in case of conviction, shall be subject to imprisonment of up to three years or to a fine not exceeding 34.500 Euro or to both such penaltie

Cap. 6  
11 of 1965  
161 of 1989  
228 of 1989  
51(I) of 1999  
14 of 1960  
50 of 1962  
11 of 1963  
8 of 1969  
40 of 1970  
58 of 1972  
1 of 1980  
35 of 1982  
29 of 1983  
91 of 1983  
16 of 1984  
51 of 1984  
83 of 1984  
93 of 1984  
18 of 1985  
71 of 1985  
89 of 1985  
96 of 1986  
317 of 1987  
49 of 1988  
64 of 1990  
136 of 1991  
149 of 1991  
237 of 1991  
42(I) of 1992  
43(I) of 1992  
102(I) of 1992  
26(I) of 1993  
82(I) of 1995  
102(I) of 1996  
4(I) of 1997  
53(I) of 1997  
90(I) of 1997  
27(I) of 1998  
53(I) of 1998  
110(I) of 1998  
34(I) of 1999  
146(I) of 1999

43 of  
118(I)/2010

(2) In the event of conviction of a person for a criminal offence committed in violation of this Law and of the Regulations issued thereunder, the Court may, further to any other penalty, order the immediate termination of the operation of the television or radio broadcaster belonging this person for such time and on such conditions as the Court may deem fit to impose.

43 of  
118(I)/2010

(3) A person against whom an order is issued under the above subsection who neglects, fails or refuses to comply therewith, shall commit a criminal offence and, in case of conviction, shall be subject to imprisonment of up to two years or to a fine not exceeding 34.500 Euro.

Liability of  
legal  
entities.

41E. Where any of the violations or any criminal offences referred to in this Law or in the Regulations issued thereunder are committed by a legal person, the liability for this violation or offence shall be borne, besides the legal entities themselves, by -

(a) all Members of the Board of Directors or of the Management Council or of the Committee handling the affairs of the legal person;

(b) the General Manager or the Director or the Managing Director of the legal person,

and the administrative sanction for the violation or the criminal prosecution for the offence may turn against the legal person and against all or any of the aforementioned persons.

Rights of  
directly  
affected  
third  
parties.  
44 of  
118(I)/2010

41F.(1) Any person, including nationals of the Member States, who is directly affected by the violation of any provisions of this Law or of the Regulations issued thereunder, by television or radio broadcasters which fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic, shall have the right:

44 of  
118(I)/2010

(a) to file a complaint before the Authority and request that the said Authority takes measures for compliance of the television or radio broadcaster with the said provisions;

44 of  
118(I)/2010

(b) to take an action before the judicial authorities against the television or radio broadcaster that violated the said provisions.



## PART XII - MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Defamation.  
45 of  
118(I)/2010  
  
Cap. 148  
54 of 1978  
156 of 1985  
41 of 1989  
73(I) of 1992  
100(I) of  
1996  
49(I) of 1997  
Cap.154

42. Defamation of any person through a licensed television or radio broadcaster shall constitute libel and shall be governed by the provisions of the Civil Offences Law and the Criminal Code.

Copies of  
programmes.  
46 of  
118(I)/2010  
51 of  
197(I)/2021

43. (1) Any person who considers themselves offended by the content of a programme of a licensed television or radio broadcaster may, upon paying the specified fee, request in writing within one (1) month from the transmission of such programme and be furnished within seven (7) days from the date of submitting his application with a copy of the relevant programme.

(2) The Attorney-General of the Republic or a person authorized thereby may, without paying any fee, request in writing the immediate receipt of a copy of any programme to investigate the offence under this Law.

(3) Subject to the provisions of subsection (4) of this section, every licensed television broadcaster or licenced radio broadcaster of national coverage shall be obliged to keep and maintain unedited the digital copy of the programme for a period of forty-five (45) days from its transmission. Local radio broadcasters and small local radio broadcasters shall be obliged to keep and maintain unedited the digital copy of the programme for a period of fifteen days (15) from its transmission:

Provided that in case of referral to the Authority or commencement of legal proceedings, the digital copy of the programme shall be kept unedited until the hearing day and in case it is necessary to produce it as an exhibit in the proceedings, until the day on which it shall be produced as an exhibit.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (3) above, the Authority may order the keeping and maintenance of a specific digital copy of the programme for a period over forty-five (45) days or fifteen (15) days, as applicable, if it deems this necessary.

(5) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) to (4) above, the Authority may request a copy of any programme.

44.-(1) Without prejudice to other provisions under civil, administrative or criminal law, a natural or legal person, regardless of nationality or country of registration, whose legal interests, particularly their reputation and good name, have been damaged by an assertion of false or incorrect facts during a programme shall have the right of reply or resort to equivalent remedy measures vis-à-vis the television broadcaster.

(2) The Authority should ensure that the actual exercise of the right of reply or of the right to equivalent remedies is not hindered by the imposition of unreasonable terms or conditions.

(3) The right of reply or the resort to equivalent measures may be exercised against all television broadcasters that fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic.

(4) The request of reply or the resort to equivalent remedy measures may be rejected by the television broadcaster in the following cases:

(a) if the requirements of subsection (1) are not fulfilled; or

(b) if the satisfaction of this request involves a punishable act or a civil liability by the television broadcaster or would transgress the standards of public decency.

(5) In case of rejection by the television broadcaster of the request of reply or failure to reply within fifteen days, the applicant may resort to the Authority to re-examine his request. If the Authority considers that the request is justified, it shall ask the television broadcaster to implement this section.

(6) The reply shall be broadcast or announced within seven days from its receipt or from the date on which the Authority asks from the television broadcaster to implement this section. The reply shall be broadcast or announced, preferably in the same programme, where the relevant reference was made. This obligation shall exist, regardless of any other liability, civil or criminal and of the injured party's right to compensation.

(7) In the event of a broadcast of a reply, the providers shall have the right to limit its extent, where it is disproportionately long in relation to the reference that caused it, without prejudice to its essence in any case.

Equal treatment of political parties and others.

4 of 17(I)/2009  
48 of 118(I)/2010

45.(1) Licensed television or radio broadcasters shall treat equally and without discrimination, especially during a pre-election period, the legislative and executive powers, the political parties, the Presidential candidates, the Members of the House of Representatives, the Members of the European Parliament, trade unions and social organisations, municipal and community authorities and citizens in general, without however prejudicing the journalist's right to evaluate events and situations according to their newsworthiness and significance.

For the purposes of this subsection, pre-election period shall mean a period of three months prior to any elections.

48 of 118(I)/2010

(2) In no case shall the purchase of time be allowed at a television or radio broadcaster by any person, natural or legal, that is contrary to the provisions of subsection (1) of this section.

Broadcasting of polls.

2 of 53(I)/2001  
2 of 65(I)/2001  
49 of 118(I)/2010

46. (1) The broadcasting or transmission by television or radio broadcasters of the results of any polls related to elections seven days prior to the holding of any elections shall be prohibited.

(2) A company conducting a poll the results of which are published during a pre-election period shall, prior to its publication, submit to the Authority the identity of the survey, a memorandum on the methodology and sampling used for the poll, a detailed statement of the sample of the population used therein as well as a sample of the poll's questionnaire.

Provided that all the aforementioned information of the poll submitted to the Authority shall be protected as absolutely confidential information and shall be under the safe keeping of the Chairman of the Authority. No other person shall have access to this information unless a special investigation is decided.

Financial affairs of broadcasters.  
50 of 118(I)/2010  
54 of 197(I)/2021

47. (1) The annual balance sheet and the operating results of each licensed television or radio broadcaster shall be published in at least two daily newspapers within nine months from the end of the financial year.

(2) A copy of the balance sheet and report shall be sent within the same deadline to the Authority and the House of Representatives.

Criminal offences.  
24 of  
97(I)/2004

48. [Repealed].

Criminal liability of legal persons.  
24 of  
97(I)/2004

49. [Repealed].

Inspection of television or radio broadcaster  
51 of  
118(I)/2010

50. Following a reasonable notice, the licensee shall allow persons authorized by the Authority to enter the premises of the television or radio broadcaster, provide them with all necessary facilities for technical or other inspection as well as other details and information, whenever required for purposes of application of this Law.

Regulations.  
52 of  
118(I)/2010

51. (1) For better application of this Law, the Authority shall issue Regulations with the approval of the Council of Ministers.

52 of  
73(I)/2011  
55 of  
197(I)/2021

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), Regulations may regulate the following:

(a) the form of the application submitted for the issue of a licence;

52 of  
118(I)/2010

(b) the technical characteristics required from licensed television or radio broadcasters regarding studios and broadcasting premises;

52 of  
118(I)/2010

(c) the minimum organizational structure and staffing of television or radio broadcasters;

(d) the supporting documents that need to accompany any application for the granting of a licence.

55 of  
197(I)/2021

(e) the equal treatment of political parties during a pre-election period as well as of presidential candidates and candidates for the House of Representatives, Members of the European Parliament, and municipal, community and social agencies, without prejudicing the journalistic independence and freedom in the evaluation of newsworthiness, expression and promotion of issues, facts and situations;

(f) methods of monitoring a licensed television or radio broadcaster regarding the observance by such broadcaster of the terms of its licence and the fulfilment of its obligations under this Law;

(g) a Code governing in detail the advertisements which shall be prepared by the Authority following consultations with the Advertisers Association;

(h) the minimum number of broadcasting hours;

52 of  
118(I)/2010 (i) the amount and a bank guarantee securing its payment for the enforcement of a court decision issued against the licensed television or radio broadcaster for any cause;

52 of  
118(I)/2010  
55 of  
197(I)/2021 (j) the method of keeping and publishing the balance sheets and operating results of any television or radio broadcaster so that the broadcaster's resources as well as advertisements, loans and contributions are declared;

55 of  
197(I)/2021 (k) the safeguarding of equality in the case of political programmes;

(l) the principles governing programmes such as the ones included in this Law;

(m) the imposition of fees and charges by the Authority for services rendered under the provisions of this Law;

(n) the imposition of fines due to violation of the provisions of this Law and of the Regulations issued thereunder, where these are not provided for in this Law;

(o) matters pertaining to a Journalists' Code of Practice on electronic media;

52 of  
118(I)/2010 (p) the qualifications, training and education of journalists and other bodies of the television or radio broadcaster;

(q) the safeguarding of the independence and freedom of editorial staff;

55 of  
197(I)/2021 (r) the definition of cultural and informational programmes;

52 of  
118(I)/2010 (s) the regulation of matters relating to events of major importance and the exercise of exclusive rights by television broadcasters;

52 of  
73(I)/2011 (t) any other matter that needs to be defined or is open to definition.

(3) The Regulations issued by authorization of this Law shall be submitted to the House of Representatives for approval within four months at the latest from the entry into force of this Law.

52 of  
118(I)/2010  
52 of  
73(I)/2011

(4) In Regulations issued or deemed to have been issued under this Law -

(a) the term “licensed station” is hereby replaced by the term “licensed broadcaster”;

(b) the term “free television station” is hereby replaced by the term “free television broadcaster”;

(c) the term “thematic station” is hereby replaced by the term “thematic television or radio broadcaster”;

55 of  
197(I)/2021

(d) the term “national station or network” is hereby replaced by the terms “television broadcaster” or “national radio broadcaster”, as the case may be;

(e) the term “radio station” is hereby replaced by the term “radio broadcaster”;

(f) the term “station” is hereby replaced by the term “media service provider”;

(g) the term “encoded broadcast station is hereby replaced by the term “television broadcaster of encoded broadcasts” or “pay television broadcaster”;

55 of  
197(I)/2021

(h) the term “telemarketing” is hereby replaced by the term “teleshopping”;

(i) the term “television station” is hereby replaced by the term “television broadcaster”;

55 of  
197(I)/2021

(j) the term “local station” is hereby replaced by the term “local radio broadcaster”;

55 of  
197(I)/2021

(k) the term “window or teleshopping window” is hereby replaced by the term “teleshopping window”, in the proper grammatical variant and shall have the meaning given to this term in section 2 of this Law.

Emergency.  
117(I) of  
1996

52.(1) In the event that a state of emergency, as provided for in the Constitution, or a state of civil defense, pursuant to the provisions of the Civil Defense Law, is declared during which it is deemed fit for purposes of public interest for the government to put under its control the transmission of messages or any other matter via a television or radio broadcaster’s transmitters, the Minister may proceed with the following:

53 of  
118(I)/2010

(a) take control of the television or radio broadcaster;

(b) nominate any person as competent for the control of the television or radio broadcaster or its equipment;

(c) order a television or radio broadcaster to hand over to him all messages given for transmission;

(d) stop or delay the transmission of any such messages or instruct a television or radio broadcaster to stop or delay their transmission or hand them over to him;

53 of  
118(I)/2010

(e) order a television or radio broadcaster to comply with all the instructions which the Minister shall deem fit to issue in relation to the transmission of messages.

53 of  
118(I)/2010

(2) In the event of application of subsection (1) of this section, a television or radio broadcaster is entitled to receive from the government:

53 of  
118(I)/2010

(a) compensation for any damages incurred to the property of the television or radio broadcaster directly due to the exercise of the above powers;

53 of  
118(I)/2010

(b) any expenses which, taking into account the nature of the emergency, have inevitably been incurred by the television or radio broadcaster due to the exercise of the above powers.

Transmis-  
sion of  
special spots  
54 of  
118(I)/2010

53.(1) Whenever a state of emergency, pursuant to the Constitution, or a state of civil defense, pursuant to the Civil Defense Law, is declared, a television or radio broadcaster shall transmit, at its own expense, whenever requested to do so by an authorized person, any announcement or message or image.

54 of 118(I)/  
2010

For the purposes of this subsection, the term “authorised person” shall mean any person who has been authorised by the Minister to this end by a written notification to the television or radio broadcaster and shall include a police officer of a rank not lower than Assistant Chief of Police.

54 of 118(I)/  
2010.

(2) The Council of Ministers may from time to time request from the television or radio broadcaster by a written notification to refrain from broadcasting or transmitting the messages specified in the notification, at any particular time.

54 of 118(I)/  
2010

(3) It shall be at the discretion of the television or radio broadcaster to announce or refrain from announcing that such notification has been served or amended or withdrawn.

Free  
coverage of  
events of  
general  
interest.  
55 of  
118(I)/2010

54. [Repealed].

### PART XIII - FINAL AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

Proviso.  
26 of  
97(I)/2004  
56 of  
118(I)/2010

55. Subject to the provisions of section 3 of this Law regarding the Authority's responsibilities, nothing contained in this Law shall either prejudice or be interpreted as prejudicing in any way the Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation or any other radio or television broadcaster that is operating under a special law or under international or interstate agreements signed or to be signed by the Republic.

Repeal and  
transitional  
provisions.

56.(1) The licences of radio stations issued and granted under the Radio and Television Stations Law of 1998 to 2010 shall be deemed to have been issued and granted under the Radio and Television Broadcasters Laws of 1998 to 2011 and shall be subject to all the provisions of the said Laws and shall be valid until their expiration.

88(I)/1998  
13(I)/1998  
55(I)/2000  
18(I)/2001  
126(I)/2001  
120/1990  
205/1991  
91(I)/1996  
29(I)/1992  
94(I)/1996  
118(I)/2010  
73(I)/2011

57 of  
118(I)/2010  
7 of  
73(I)/2011

(1)(a) Radio stations the licences of which have been issued and are valid under subsection (1) shall continue to pay to the Authority from the date of entry into force of the Radio and Television Stations (Amending) Law of 2011, a percentage of the fees provided for in paragraphs (c) and (d) of section 24, proportional to the duration of validity of their licence as well as 0.5% on their revenues from advertisements.

7 of  
73(I)/2011

(b) The licences of television stations issued and granted under the Radio and Television Stations Laws of 1998 to 2010, shall be deemed to have been issued and granted under the Radio and Television Stations Laws of 1998 to 2011. These licences shall hereafter be subject to all provisions of the Radio and Television Stations Laws of 1998 to 2011, in compliance with the other transitional provisions of this law, and shall be valid until the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2011 or any other date determined by the Council of Ministers as the date of transition to a fully digital environment.



7 of  
73(I)/2011

(c) The Authority may grant provisional media service provider licences which shall be valid until the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2012, in the following cases:

(i) to television broadcasters the licences of which have been issued and are valid under subsection (1)(b);

(ii) to television broadcasters or broadcasts already operating or transmitting in an electronic communications network, without having previously obtained a licence by the Authority under the Radio and Television Stations Law of 1998 to 2010;

(iii) to new television broadcasters or broadcasts;

7 of  
73(I)/2011

(d) The television broadcasters referred to in subsection (1)(c) shall apply for a provisional media service provider licence within one month from the entry into force of the Radio and Television Stations (Amending) Law of 2011 for every television broadcast by means of a relevant form of the Authority:

Provided that the exact procedure for the granting of provisional media service provider licences as well as the relevant forms shall be determined by a relevant decision of the Authority.

7 of  
73(I)/2011

(e) Media service providers to which a provisional licence is granted must pay to the Authority for each television broadcast, from the date of entry into force of the Radio and Television Stations (Amending) Law of 2011, a percentage of the fee provided for in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 24, proportional to the duration of the validity of their provisional licence, as well as 0.5% on their revenues from advertisements or audiovisual commercial communications. These licences shall be hereafter subject to all provisions of the Radio and Television Stations of 1998 to 2011, in compliance with the other transitional provisions of this section.

2 of  
88(I)/2012  
3 of  
46(I)/2013  
2 of 86(I)/  
2014  
2 of  
94(I)/2015  
3 of  
77(I)/2016  
2 of  
81(I)/2017  
2 of  
64(I)/2018  
2 of  
92(I)/2019  
75(I)/ 2020  
74(I) 2021

(1eA) The Authority may renew the provisional media service provider licences granted under subsection (1)(c), which shall be valid until the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

2 of 88(I)/2012. (1eB) (a) Media service providers referred to in subsection (1eA) shall apply for a renewal of the provisional media service provider licence for each television broadcast by means of a relevant form of the Authority.

2 of 88(I)/2012 (b) The Authority shall determine, by a relevant decision thereof, the further procedure for the renewal of provisional media service provider licences as well as the relevant applications forms.

2 of 88(I)/2012 (1eC) (a) The Authority may grant provisional media service provider licences to new television broadcasters or broadcasts which shall be valid the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

3 of 46(I)/2013  
2 of 86(I)/2014  
2 of 94(I)/2015  
3 of 77(I)/2016  
2 of 81(I)/2017  
2 of 64(I)/2018  
2 of 92(I)/2019  
75(I)/ 2020  
74(I)/ 2021

88(I)/1998  
13(I)/1999  
159(I)/1999  
23(I)/2000  
55(I)/2000  
134(I)/2000  
18(I)/2001  
53(I)/2001  
65(I)/2001  
78(I)/2001  
126(I)/2001  
102(I)/2002  
186(I)/2002  
24(I)/2003  
97(I)/2004  
84(I)/2006  
85(I)/2006  
170(I)/2006  
117(I)/2008  
17(I)/2009  
136(I)/2009  
118(I)/2010  
73(I)/2011  
88(I)/2012  
46(I)/2013  
86(I)/2014  
94(I)/2015  
201(I)/2015  
77(I)/2016  
81(I)/2017  
64(I)/2018  
53(I)/2019  
92(I)/2019  
75(I)/2020  
174(I)/2020  
74(I)/2021

2 of 88(I)/2012 (b) The Authority shall determine, by a relevant decision thereof, the further procedure for the grant of provisional media service provider licences as well as the relevant applications forms.

2 of 88(I)/2012 (1eD) Media service providers to which a provisional licence is granted or renewed under subsections (1eA) and (1eC), must pay to the Authority for each television broadcast, a percentage of the fee provided for in paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 24, proportional to the duration of the validity of their provisional licence, as well as 0.5% on their revenues from advertisements or audiovisual commercial communications.

2 of 88(I)/2012 (1eE) Licences shall be renewed or granted under this section, provided that all provisions of the Radio and Television Stations Law, as amended or replaced at the time, are fulfilled:

2 of 88(I)/2012  
3 of 46(I)/2013  
2 of 86(I)/2014  
2 of 94(I)/2015  
3 of 77(I)/2016  
2 of 81(I)/2017  
2 of 64(I)/2018  
2 of 92(I)/2019  
75(I)/ 2020  
74(I) 2021

Provided that, where media service providers or their broadcasts are connected or related to a legal person of public law, the Authority may, pursuant to the provisions of this section, renew provisional licences to media service providers or grant new licences to media service providers or broadcasts which shall be valid until the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022, even

if not all provisions of the Radio and Television Stations Law, as amended or replaced at the time, are fulfilled.

7 of  
73(I)/2011

(f) As of the date of transition to a fully digital environment, the operation of a television broadcaster and of the broadcasts it offers to an electronic communications network shall be prohibited, unless a provisional licence has been previously obtained from the Authority and the annual licence fee provided for in section 24 has been paid to the Authority.

(2) Until the appointment by the Council of Ministers of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Authority, the responsibilities and powers of the Authority under this Law shall be temporarily exercised by the Director-General of the Ministry of the Interior.

(3) The Radio Stations Law and the Television Stations Law shall be repealed.

57 of  
118(I)/2010

(4) The Radio and Television Stations (Amending) Law of 2010 shall prejudice neither any obligation nor any liability of radio and television stations the licences of which have been issued and are valid under subsection (1), nor any investigation or hearing procedures currently in process by the Authority.

57 of  
118(I)/2010  
7 of  
73(I)/2011

(5) Radio broadcasters holding a radio station licence granted by the Authority, pursuant to the provisions of subsection (1), shall continue to operate regularly and to comply with the provisions of the Radio and Television Stations Laws of 1998 to 2011.

57 of  
118(I)/2010

(6) The Notification of the List of Events of Major Importance issued in 2001 under subsection (2) of section 27 of the Radio and Television Stations Law of 1998 to 2000 shall be repealed as of the date of entry into force of the Radio and Television Stations (Amending) Law of 2010.