

Commission on TV and Radio Armenia

Armenia's Audiovisual Legal Framework – 2025 Overview

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Core Legal Acts

- ▶ Law on Audiovisual Media (2020, amended 2025)
- ▶ Law on Advertising
- ▶ Law on Copyright and Related Rights

Regulatory Bodies

- ▶ - Television and Radio Commission (TRC)
 - ▶ • Independent regulator, state-budget financed
 - ▶ • Licenses, monitors, sanctions broadcasters
- ▶ - Industrial Committee for Audiovisual Media
 - ▶ • Co-regulatory body for audience measurement

Licensing & Digital Transition

- ▶ - All broadcasters require TRC license/registration
- ▶ - DVB-T2 digital broadcasting nationwide since 2016

Content Rules

- ▶ - 20% airtime quota for cultural, educational, scientific, children's programs
- ▶ - Protection of minors: explicit content allowed only 00:00–06:00
- ▶ - Accessibility: subtitles/sign-language for news + daily children's program
- ▶ - Major events: must be shown on free-to-air TV

Copyright & Media Regulation

- ▶ - Copyright regulated by Law on Copyright and Related Rights
- ▶ - Protects authors, performers, producers, broadcasters
- ▶ - Broadcasters must respect intellectual property when transmitting content
- ▶ - TRC monitors compliance for licensed operators

Advertising Rules

- ▶ - Restrictions on alcohol, tobacco, gambling
- ▶ - No gambling-linked channel names
- ▶ - No advertising on national memorial days
- ▶ - Sponsorship & product placement: must be clearly labeled

Public Service & Funding

- ▶ - Public Service TV & Radio – state-financed, impartiality mandate
- ▶ - Public-Benefit Media Fund (2025)
 - Grants for cultural, children's, scientific, sports programming
 - Supports broadcasters hit by ad revenue decline

Independence & Freedoms

- ▶ - TRC formally independent, reports to Parliament
- ▶ - Armenia ranked 43rd in RSF Press Freedom Index (2025) – highest in South Caucasus
- ▶ - Foreign channels in information warfare

EU Alignment

- ▶ Aligned with EU AVMS Directive:
 - ▶ - Independent regulator
 - ▶ - Minors' protection & accessibility
 - ▶ - Major events free-to-air
 - ▶ - Co-/self-regulation mechanisms
- ▶ Remaining Gaps:
 - ▶ - No video-sharing platform (VSP) rules
 - ▶ - No TV-like broadcasting rules

Conclusion

- ▶ Achievements:
 - ▶ - Modernized legal framework
 - ▶ - Public-interest funding introduced
 - ▶ - Digital TV fully deployed
 - ▶ - Strong press freedom relative to region
- ▶ Challenges Ahead:
 - ▶ - Sustainability of private/regional broadcasters
 - ▶ - Regulating online platforms & VSPs
 - ▶ - Balancing state support with independence
 - ▶ - Resilience against foreign disinformation

Thank you!