

Note: The Law on Radio and Television has been amended twice. Amendments to the Law on Radio and Television were adopted in April 2001 and September 2001 respectively in order to align Slovene legislation with the "Television without frontiers" Directive. Two decrees, one governing the method and criteria for drawing up the list of major events to which viewer access must be ensured, and the other laying down the criteria and arrangements for defining Slovene audiovisual works, were adopted in December 2001.

The Law on Radio and Television

(...)

Article 8

RTV Slovenija programmes do not allow the propagation of political parties.

Regardless of the provision from the previous paragraph, political propaganda is allowed during an election campaign.

An election campaign includes, according to this law, political advertising spots and other forms of political propaganda the purpose of which is to influence the decision of voters when electing candidates for President of the Republic and for deputies to the Parliament and for bodies of local communities.

RTV Slovenia is allowed to broadcast election messages only with the full name of the person who ordered them. The person ordering such messages bears full responsibility for the contents of the message.

Election campaigning in RTV Slovenia programmes may begin 24 days before election day and end at least 24 hours before election day.

Article 9

During an election campaign must surrender RTV Slovenija part of its programme time for the presentation of the candidates, political parties and their programmes free of charge.

All candidates and parties represented in the Parliament have an equal amount of time to present themselves (equality principle).

Political parties and independent candidates not represented in the Parliament must have one third of the entire programme time at their disposal. This time is determined by RTV Slovenia for all political parties and candidates included in the election, with RTV Slovenia ensuring to all parties and candidates, in the framework of the entire time they have at their disposal, equality and the same presentation conditions (equality principle).

RTV Slovenia must ensure candidates for the President of the republic have an equal time and conditions of their presentation.

Within 15 days after the scheduling of the election for the President of the republic or the election to the Parliament and local election, RTV Slovenia announces the way, forms, amount and conditions for the presentation of the candidates, political parties and their programmes from the first paragraph of this Article in its programmes, daily newspapers or in another way accessible to the public.

RTV Slovenia programmes are not allowed to publish a public opinion survey about the candidates and political parties in the last seven days before election day.

(...)

V. PENALTY CLAUSE

Article 27

RTV Slovenia is punishable by a fine of at least 1.000.000 (one million) Slovene Tolars if:

it publishes political propaganda without giving the name of the person who ordered it (Paragraph 4 Article 8);

it does not publish the method, the forms, amount and conditions of the presentation of the candidates, political parties and their programmes within 15 days before the beginning of election campaign (Paragraph 5, Article 9);

if it publishes a public opinion survey about the candidates or political parties within seven days before the election day (Paragraph 6, Article 9).

A person in charge is punishable by a fine of at least 20,000 Slovene Tolars if he/she breaks the law as in the previous paragraph.

(...)