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Pursuant to Article 83, item 3 of the Constitution of the Republic of Serbia, I hereby issue a

DECREE

of the Promulgation of the Law on Public Information

The Law on Public Information, passed by the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia at the fifth sitting of the regular session of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia in 2003, on 22 April 2003, is hereby promulgated.

PR No. 23
In Belgrade, 22 April 2003

Acting President of the Republic,

Nataša Mičić, signature

LAW ON PUBLIC INFORMATION

I INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS

Article 1

This Law shall regulate the right to public information as a right to the freedom of expression of thought and the rights and obligations of persons involved in the public information process.

The right to public information shall entail in particular the freedom of expression of thought, the freedom to gather, investigate, publish and disseminate ideas, information and opinions, the freedom to print and distribute (disseminate) newspapers and other media outlets, the freedom to produce and broadcast radio and television programmes, the freedom to receive ideas, information and opinions, the freedom to establish legal persons dealing with public information.

II PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

Freedom of Public Information

Article 2

Public information shall be free and in the interest of the public.

Public information shall not be subjected to censorship.

No-one may, even indirectly, limit the freedom of public information, especially by abuse of state or private authority, the abuse of the rights, influence or control of the means of printing and distribution of media outlets or of broadcasting devices and radio frequencies, or in any other manner likely to limit the free flow of ideas, information and opinions.

No one may exert any form of physical or other pressure on a media outlet or its staff, or any form of influence likely to hinder their work.

Breaches of the freedom of public information shall be ruled on by the courts, by urgent procedure.

Obligation of Journalistic Due Diligence

Article 3

Prior to the publication of information containing data on an event, phenomenon or personality, the journalist and the responsible editor shall verify its origin, accuracy and completeness with due diligence.

The journalist and the responsible editor of a media outlet shall convey and publicize others' information, ideas and opinions accurately and thoroughly, and, in the event that the information was taken from another media outlet, that media outlet shall be quoted as the origin of the information.

Information on Issues of Public Interest

Article 4

Media outlets shall freely publish ideas, information and opinions on phenomena, events and personalities about which the public has a justified interest to know, unless otherwise specified by the law.

The provision in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall apply regardless of the manner in which the information was obtained.

Rights of Special Categories of Persons

Article 5

To realise the rights of national minorities and ethnic communities to information in their own languages and to nurture their own cultures and identities, the Republic, autonomous province and local government shall secure part of the funds or other

conditions for the work of media outlets in the languages of national minorities and ethnic communities.

In order to protect the interests of invalids, handicapped persons and other individuals with special needs, the Republic, autonomous province or local government shall secure part of the funds or other conditions for such persons to freely exercise the right to public information, especially the freedom of reception of ideas, information and opinions.

Rights of Foreigners in the Field of Public Information

Article 6

Foreign natural and legal persons shall enjoy the same rights and obligations in the field of public information as national persons, unless specified otherwise by the law or by a ratified international agreement.

Ban on Monopoly in the Field of Public Information

Article 7

Every form of monopoly in the field of public information shall be prohibited to protect the principles of free competition and pluralism of ideas and opinions.

No one may have a monopoly on establishing or distributing a media outlet.

No one may have a monopoly to publish ideas, information and opinions in a media outlet.

Application and Interpretation of the Provisions of this Law

Article 8

No provision of this Law may be interpreted or applied in a manner that may result in the abrogation of a right guaranteed by this Law or to a greater restriction of such a right than prescribed.

Status of Holders of State and Political Posts

Article 9

The right to protection of privacy, applicable to persons to whom information refers, shall be limited for a holder of a state or political post if the information is of public relevance in view of the fact that such a person holds a public office.

The rights of the persons referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be limited in proportion to the justified interest of the public in each specific case.

Article 10

State bodies and organizations, territorial autonomy and local government bodies, public services and public firms, as well as deputies and board members have the obligation to provide access to information about their work to the public, equally to all journalists and all media outlets.

III MEDIA OUTLETS

Concept of a Media Outlet

Article 11

Media outlets are newspapers, radio programmes, television programmes, news agency services, internet and other electronic editions of the above media outlets and other public information media that use words, images and sound to publish ideas, information and opinions intended for public dissemination and an unspecified number of users.

A media outlet shall not have the status of a legal person.

Article 12

In terms of this Law, the following shall not be regarded as media outlets: periodicals focusing on a certain professional field and intended solely to inform or educate a certain professional group, publications, catalogues and programmes that contain solely personal ads, advertisements and market-oriented information, newspapers, newsletters and similar publications for internal information purposes which are not publicly disseminated, official heralds of the state, territorial autonomy and local self administration units, or flyers, posters and similar forms of public information means.

Article 13

Every newspaper with a distinct name shall be deemed a distinct media outlet.

All editions of a certain newspaper published under a single name shall be deemed a single media outlet.

Every individual radio or television programme shall be deemed a single media outlet even in the event that it is broadcast via two or more frequencies.

If different radio frequencies are used to broadcast different radio or television programmes established by one media outlet founder, each programme shall be deemed a separate media outlet.

Every news agency service, which is distributed separately, shall be deemed a separate media outlet.

Founder of a Media Outlet

Article 14

A media outlet shall be registered with the Register of Media Outlets.

Every natural or legal person, national or foreign, may be the founder of a legal person that is the founder of a media outlet, in keeping with the law.

Media outlets may not be founded, either directly or indirectly, by the state, a territorial autonomy, or by an institution or company, which is prevalently state-owned or which is fully or predominantly funded from public revenues, unless such a possibility is envisaged by a separate broadcasting law.

Exceptionally from Paragraph 3, the state may establish a news agency by a separate law.

Article 14a

The founder of a media outlet cannot transfer or otherwise dispose of the right to the media outlet, or the right of publishing of the media outlet.

A contract or another legal act whose subject is transfer or other disposal of the rights stipulated in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be deemed null and void.

In case of termination of a media outlet through signing out of the Register of Media Outlets or in some other way or by cessation of printing or publishing the media outlet, founding of a media outlet with the identical or similar name that may cause confusion with respect to the identity of the media outlet shall be prohibited.

The prohibition mentioned in Paragraph 3 of this Article shall be effective one year from the date of publishing the last issue of the media outlet that ceased to exist or which is not being printed or published.

Article 14b

The Register of Media Outlets shall be kept by an organization in charge of keeping the register of companies.

The minister in charge of public information shall define the method of keeping the Register of Media Outlets.

Article 14v

The organisation keeping the Register of Media Outlets shall, once a month, at the request of the Republican authority in charge of public information, submit an excerpt from the Register of Media Outlets with data on founders of media outlets.

The excerpt from the Register of Media Outlets mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall state the name and the identification number for each founder of media outlet, information on the monetary part of capital stock and the overview of all media outlets of which he is a founder.

The authority mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall submit an excerpt from the Register of Media Outlets to the organisation conducting the procedure of forced execution.

The organisation conducting the procedure of forced execution shall, no later than three days from the date of reception of the excerpt mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this Article, submit to the authority in charge of public information the data on forced execution for each of the founders of the media outlets named in the excerpt with a special note of the period of suspension of all payments.

IV DISTRIBUTION OF MEDIA OUTLETS

Freedom of Distribution of Media Outlets

Article 15

The distribution of national and foreign media outlets shall be free.

Prohibition of Discrimination on the Media Outlet Market

Article 16

A person involved in the distribution of media outlets may not refuse to distribute a particular media outlet without a justified commercial reason or set conditions for distribution which are contrary to market principles.

The founder of a media outlet the distribution of which is suspended fully or in significant part through violation of the ban in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall be entitled to seek compensation for the damages so incurred before the competent court.

In the case of violation of the ban in Paragraph 1 of this Article is ascertained in the proceedings described in Paragraph 2 of this Article, the court shall calculate the compensation for the damages incurred at least according to the value of sold advertising space for all the issues of the media outlet that were not distributed as a result of the violation of the ban in Paragraph 1 of this Article. In absence of proof of such value for all or some of the issues of the media outlet, the value for each such issue shall be deemed equal to the value of the sold advertising space in the first issue of the media outlet that was not distributed.

The procedure mentioned in Paragraph 2 of this Article is urgent.

In the course of the proceedings mentioned in Paragraph 2 of this Article, the competent court shall, at the proposal of the founder of a media outlet, specify a temporary measure obliging the person engaged in distribution of media outlet to continue distributing the subject media outlet until the effective termination of the procedure.

The proposal in Paragraph 5 of this Article shall be subject to decision by the competent court no later than eight days from the day of submission of the proposal.

The competent court shall immediately forward its decision to the founder of the media outlet, editor-in-chief of the media outlet and the person engaged in distribution of the media outlet.

Ban on Dissemination of a Piece of Information

Article 17

The competent district court may upon a motion by the public prosecutor ban the dissemination of a piece of information if it establishes that such a prohibition is necessary in a democratic society to prevent: calls for a violent overthrow of the constitutional order, the undermining of the territorial integrity of the Republic, prevent propagation of war, incitement to immediate violence or racial, ethnic or religious hatred representing incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and that the publication of such information would directly result in a serious, irreparable consequence that could not be prevented in another manner.

Ban Motion

Article 18

The motion to ban the dissemination of information of media outlets (hereinafter: ban motion) shall be submitted by the competent public prosecutor.

The public prosecutor may request in the ban motion a ban on disseminating the piece of information in Article 17 of this Law, the confiscation of copies of the newspaper containing the piece of information, if the purpose of the ban can be achieved only in that manner, or a ban on disseminating such information via other media outlets.

Temporary Ban

Article 19

Upon the motion of the public prosecutor, the court may pronounce a temporary ban until a final ruling on the ban comes into force.

The court shall rule on the motion in Paragraph 1 of this Article within 12 hours of reception of the motion.

The competent court shall submit the ruling on the temporary ban forthwith to the founder, responsible editor, distributor or printing office.

The court shall order the competent Interior Ministry body to temporarily confiscate all copies of the newspaper and deliver them to the court depository for placing under seal.

Urgency of Procedure and Hearing

Article 20

The court procedure on the ban motion shall be urgent.

The court hearing must be held within three days upon reception of the motion.

The hearing on the ban motion can be held in the absence of duly summoned parties, which shall be explicitly warned thereof.

Ruling on the Ban Motion

Article 21

The court shall rule on the ban motion immediately after the hearing and the chairing judge shall pronounce the ruling forthwith.

The ruling must be laid down in writing and a certified copy of the ruling must be served upon the parties within 3 days of its pronouncement.

Dismissal of the Ban Motion

Article 22

In the event the court rejects the ban motion or annuls the decision on the temporary ban, it shall rule that all copies of the newspapers that had been confiscated or placed under seal are returned, or unsealed forthwith, within 12 hours at the latest.

An appeal lodged by the public prosecutor against the court ruling in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall not stay the execution of the ruling.

Compensation of Damages

Article 23

In the event the court rejects the ban motion, it shall decide at its own discretion on the amount of financial compensation for the damages caused by the unfounded temporary ban.

The compulsory enforcement of the ruling on compensation of damages in Paragraph 1 of this Article may be requested within 30 days from the day the ruling has entered into force.

The damaged party may demand to be compensated a greater amount of money than the court has determined provided it proves in a lawsuit the greater degree of inflicted damages.

The damages shall be compensated from the Republic budget.

Appeal against the Ruling of a Court of First Degree

Article 24

An appeal against a ruling by the court of first degree on the ban motion shall be lodged within three days upon reception of a copy of the ruling.

A copy of the appeal shall not be served to the opposing party for a response.

The court of first degree shall submit a timely and proper appeal, together with all the case files, to the court of second degree within two days from the day of appeal reception.

The court of second degree may summon and hear the parties.

The court of second degree shall rule on the appeal within three days of reception of the appeal and case files.

Appropriate Application of the Criminal Proceedings Code

Article 25

Unless otherwise specified by this Law, provisions of the Criminal Proceedings Code shall be applied accordingly in the procedure for banning the dissemination of information.

V IDENTITY

Obligation to Publish the Identity

Article 26

Every media outlet shall publish an identity and a summary identity.

In terms of this Law, the identity signifies a set of main data on a media outlet.

Identity and Summary Identity of a Media Outlet

Article 27

A media outlet identity shall contain the following data: name of the media outlet, name and seat of the founder, and the names of the responsible editor and of editors responsible for specific editions, columns or programme segments.

In addition to data in Paragraph 1 of this Article, the identity of a television or radio programme shall obligatorily contain also the date of programme broadcast and the radio frequency on which the programme is broadcast, while a news agency identity shall contain the date when the information was imparted.

The summary identity of a newspaper shall contain the name and the date of publication of the newspaper.

The summary identity of a television programme shall contain the characteristic logo of the television programme.

The summary identity of a radio programme shall contain the name of the radio programme and the radio frequency the programme is broadcast on, and if the radio programme is broadcast on maximum two radio frequencies, also the radio frequency, or radio frequencies on which the programme is broadcast.

The summary identity of a news agency shall contain the name of the service and the date the information was imparted on.

Manner of Publishing the Identity

Article 28

The identity must be published integrally and clearly separated from the other media outlet content.

The identity and the summary identity of a newspaper shall be published in every issue and on every copy.

The summary identity of a newspaper shall be published on the margin of every page.

The identity of a television or radio programme shall be broadcast at the beginning and at the end of the programme, every day the programme is broadcast, and, in the event the programme is broadcast continuously, every day between midnight and two a.m.

The summary identity of a television programme shall be visible throughout the duration of the programme.

The summary identity of a radio programme shall be broadcast at least once every two hours throughout programme duration.

The identity of a news agency shall be published at least once a day.

The summary identity of a news agency shall be published along with each published information.

The identity of other media outlets shall be published in a suitable manner, pursuant to the provisions of this Article.

Distribution of a Media Outlet without Identity

Article 29

A distributor has the right to refuse to distribute a media outlet lacking an identity.

A distributor, who had agreed to distribute a media outlet without an identity, shall be held liable in the event of a dispute related to information, ideas or opinions published in that media outlet.

VI EDITORS AND JOURNALISTS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS OF JOURNALISTS

Editors

Article 30

Every media outlet must have a responsible editor.

The editor-in-chief of a media outlet shall have the status of the responsible editor of that media outlet.

A media outlet may also have responsible editors for specific editions, columns, or programme segments.

The responsible editor of a specific edition, column, or programme segments shall be held responsible for the contents he/she edits.

A person enjoying immunity from responsibility may not be appointed responsible editor.

A person with permanent residence in the Republic of Serbia may be appointed responsible editor.

Journalist's Right to Impart Information and Opinions and to Refuse to Fulfil a Directive

Article 31

A journalist may not be dismissed, suffer a salary reduction or lose his/her status in the editorial office for publishing a true assertion in the media outlet s/he is employed in, for refusing to fulfil a directive which would violate legal and ethical press codes of conduct, for refusing to fulfil a directive contravening the media outlet's editorial police, or for an opinion s/he expressed as a personal opinion elsewhere.

Journalist's Confidentiality

Article 32

A journalist is not obliged to reveal data related to his/her source of information, unless such data refer to an act of crime or a perpetrator of a crime punishable by a minimum five-year term of imprisonment.

Freedom of Professional Association

Article 33

Journalists shall be free to organize their professional associations, in keeping with a separate law regulating associations of citizens.

Right of Association in Court Proceedings

Article 34

A professional association of journalists shall have a legal interest in involvement in a labour dispute initiated by a member of such an association unless the member opposes such involvement.

VII SPECIAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS IN PUBLIC INFORMATION

Temporary Keeping of Media Outlet Records

Article 35

A founder of a media outlet shall keep one copy of the media outlet (every issue of every newspaper edition or another print media outlet, the recording of the entire daily television or radio programme broadcast and records of other media outlets), notably:

- a copy of a newspaper and other print media shall be kept for 60 days after the date of publication;
- a copy of recordings of the broadcast radio or television programme shall be kept for 30 days after the date of broadcast;
- a copy of other media outlets shall be kept for 30 days after their publication.

Right to Insight in Media Outlet Records

Article 36

The founder shall allow insight in the kept media outlet records or to supply a copy thereof at the request of a court or an internal affairs body without delay, within three days of reception of such a request in writing at the latest.

The obligation in Paragraph 1 of this Article shall also apply to every person that has a legal interest, upon submission of a written request for insight or copying of the material and advance payment of the actual costs of insight or of copying.

Presumption of Innocence

Article 37

A media outlet may not qualify anyone as the perpetrator of a punishable offence, or proclaim a person guilty of or responsible for an offence prior to a final ruling passed by a court or another competent body.

Prohibition of Hate Speech

Article 38

It shall be forbidden to publish ideas, information and opinions that incite discrimination, hatred or violence against an individual or a group of individuals on grounds of their race, religion, nationality, ethnicity or sex, or their sexual inclination, notwithstanding whether a criminal offence has been committed by such publication.

Lawsuit over the Breach of the Prohibition of Hate Speech

Article 39

The person, to whom the information referred to in Article 38 of this Law applies personally, as a member of a group, shall have the right to bring legal charges against the author of the information and against the responsible editor of the media outlet that published the information, to seek an injunction on repeated publication of the information and the publication of the court ruling at the expense of the defendants.

Charges may also be brought against the author and the responsible editor by any legal person whose objective is to protect human and civil rights and freedoms, as well as by organizations whose objective is to protect the interests of groups referred to in Article 38 of this Law.

If the information referred to in Article 38 pertains to a specific person, a legal person or organization in Paragraph 2 of this Article may raise charges only with the consent of the person the information refers to.

Provisions of the law on litigation shall accordingly apply to lawsuits concerning charges in Paragraphs 1 to 3 of this Article.

Exemption from Responsibility

Article 40

No breach of the prohibition of hate speech shall be invoked if the information referred to in Article 38 of this Law is part of a scientific or a journalistic text that has been published:

1. without the intent to incite discrimination, hatred or violence against persons or a group of persons referred to in Article 38 of this Law, especially if such information is part of an objective journalistic report;
2. with the intent to provide a critical view of the discrimination, hatred or violence against persons or a group of persons referred to in Article 38 of this Law, or of phenomena that constitute or might constitute incitement of such behaviour.

Protection of Minors

Article 41

To protect the rights of minors, media outlets must take into particular consideration that their content and manner of distribution do not impair the moral, intellectual, emotional and social development of minors.

The content of a media outlet, that might jeopardize the development of minors in terms of Paragraph 1 of this Article must be clearly and visibly indicated as such in advance and distributed in a manner making it highly unlikely that a minor will use it.

A minor shall not be made recognizable in the information that is liable to violate his/her rights or interests.

Ban on Public Display of Pornography

Article 42

Printed matter with pornographic content shall not be publicly displayed in a manner making it accessible to minors.

Pornographic printed matter shall not contain pornography on the front or back cover pages and it must include a visible warning that it contains pornography, as well as a warning that it is not intended for minors.

Provisions of a separate Broadcasting Law shall apply to pornographic content in television and radio programmes.

VIII RIGHTS OF THE PERSONS TO WHOM THE INFORMATION REFERS

1. PUBLICATION OF INFORMATION FROM PRIVATE LIFE

AND PERSONAL RECORDS

Information from Private Life and Personal Records

Article 43

Information regarding private facts or personal written records (a letter, diary, note, digital record, etc.), recordings of images (photographs, drawings, film, video, digital etc.) and audio recordings (tape-recordings, gramophone records, digital etc.), may not be published without the consent of the person whose private life the information pertains to, or of the person whose words, image or voice it contains, if such publication can lead to the recognition of that person's identity.

Consent shall also be needed for the live transmission of image or voice (via television, radio, etc.)

Information and records referred to in Paragraph 1 of this Article may not be published also without the consent of the person they are intended for, or of the person they pertain to, if such publication would infringe on that person's right to privacy or any other right.

Consent granted to one publication, to a specific manner of publication or to publication for a specific purpose, shall not be deemed consent to repeated

publication, to publication in a different manner or to publication for a different purpose.

If compensation has been received for the consent to obtain information or to obtain or have insight in a record, it shall be deemed that consent has also been granted to its publication.

Consent of Other Persons

Article 44

If the person referred to in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 43 of this Law is deceased, the consent shall be given by the spouse of the deceased, independently by his/her children having reached sixteen years of age, by his/her parents or brothers or sisters, by the legal person that the deceased participated in (official, member, employee) in the event the information or record refers to his/her activities in the legal person, or by the person authorized therefore by the deceased.

Termination of a legal entity shall not terminate the rights of the person that had participated in the legal entity and that has been personally affected by the information or record.

It shall be deemed that consent has been granted in the event it has been granted by any of the persons listed in Paragraph 1 of this Article, notwithstanding the refusal of other persons to grant it.

Exceptional Publication without Consent

Article 45

Exceptionally from Article 43 of this Law, private information or personal records of a person may be published without the consent of the person they refer to if:

1. the person had intended the information or the record for the public;
2. the information, or record refers to a personality, phenomenon or event of public interest, especially if it applies to a holder of a state or political post and publishing the information is important in view of the fact that the person is discharging those duties;
3. the person has given rise to the publication of such information or record by his/her behaviour;
4. the information has been disclosed or the record made in a public parliamentary debate or a public debate in a parliamentary body;
5. publication is in the interest of judiciary, national security or public security;
6. the person did not object to the collection of information or the making of the record, although he/she was aware that this was done for publication purposes;

7. publication is in the interest of science or education;
8. publication is necessary to alert of a danger (prevention of a contagious disease, search for a missing person, fraud, etc.);
9. the record includes a multitude of persons or voices (fans, concert audience, protesters, passers-by etc.);
10. a record of a public gathering is at issue;
11. the person is presented as part of the landscape, natural setting, human settlement, square, street or a similar scene.

Protection of the Right to Privacy or of the Right to Personal Records

Article 46

In the event of a breach of the right to privacy or of the right to personal records, the person whose right has been breached may initiate a lawsuit against the responsible editor of the media outlet and demand:

1. non-publication of the information or record;
2. the relinquishment of the record, removal or destruction of the published record (erasure of the video or audio recording, destruction of the film negative, removal from a publication, etc.);
3. compensation of material and non-material damages;
4. publication of the court ruling.

If the published information used a personal record or private life data without authorization, the aggrieved party may demand in his/her charges against the responsible editor part of the profit accrued by publication, commensurate to the degree his/her personal record or private data contributed to the profit.

The lawsuit in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall be filed with the district court that is competent for the territory where the seat of the media outlet founder is located.

The right to press charges in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article shall not apply to a person if information about his/her private life or personal record had been published without his/her consent and he/she *a posteriori* consented to its publication.

Unless otherwise specified by this Law, provisions of a separate law on litigation shall apply to lawsuits concerning breaches of privacy, or the right to private records.

2. RIGHT OF REPLY AND CORRECTION OF INFORMATION

Right of Reply and Right to a Correction

Article 47

A person, whom the information personally refers to and may breach his/her right or interest, may request of the responsible editor to publish free of charge a reply in which that person claims the information is inaccurate, incomplete or incorrectly imparted.

If the responsible editor fails to publish the reply for none of the reasons for not publishing the reply set out in this Law, or if the responsible editor publishes the reply in an unprescribed manner, the holder of the right of reply may bring charges against the responsible editor over the publication of the reply.

A lawsuit pertaining to the publication of a reply shall be limited only to establishing the facts determined by this Law and regarding the obligation of the responsible editor to publish a reply.

A person, whose right or interest has been breached by publication of inaccurate, incomplete or incorrectly imparted information, may demand in his/her lawsuit that the responsible editor publish free of charge his/her correction of the information as inaccurate, incomplete or incorrectly imparted.

A lawsuit on the publication of a correction shall be limited to the inaccuracy, incompleteness or incorrect imparting of the information and to whether the information violated the plaintiff's right or interest.

Other Persons' Right of Reply or Correction

Article 48

In the event a natural or legal person is incapable of looking after his/her own interests, the reply or charges for publishing the correction shall be submitted by the natural person's legal representative, or by a body of the legal person.

A person participating in a legal person (member, official, employee) shall have the right of independent reply or correction if the published information refers to both the legal person and personally to the participant.

If the person to whom the information refers has deceased, the right of reply or correction may be exercised by the spouse of the deceased, his/her children, parents, the legal person the deceased participated in if the information refers to his/her activities in the legal person, and other persons whose memory of the deceased may be or is hurt by the publication of the information.

If the legal person to which the information refers has ceased to exist, the right of reply or correction shall be transferred to the participants in the legal person.

By the publication of the reply or correction made by any person referred to in Paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Article, the right of reply or correction of other persons

shall cease when the reply or correction of the other persons concerns parts of the information the accuracy, completeness or correct imparting of which has already been disputed by a published reply or corrected in the published correction.

Deadline for Submitting a Request to Publish a Reply

Article 49

A request for the publication of a reply shall be submitted to the responsible editor within 30 days from the date of the publication of information in a daily newspaper or a daily broadcast, or 60 days from the publication of the information in a printed periodical or a periodical broadcast.

If the reply is submitted by a person who is permanently or temporarily residing abroad, the deadline for submission shall expire after 60 (sixty) days.

Deadlines for Publishing a Reply and for Raising Charges over Non-Publication of a Reply

Article 50

The responsible editor shall publish the reply without delay, in the very next or following issue of the daily newspaper, or in the very next or following daily broadcast upon arrival of the reply.

If the information to which the reply is related concerns a candidate in an election campaign, the reply shall be published in the very next issue or in the very next broadcast after reception of the reply.

If the responsible editor does not publish the reply, legal charges over the publication of a reply shall be submitted within 30 days from the day of expiry of the deadlines for publication of a reply in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

Deadlines for Raising Charges over Non-Publication of Correction and for Publishing a Correction

Article 51

The charges over the publication of a correction shall be filed within three months of the day the information was published.

The responsible editor shall publish the correction without delay, at the latest in the very next or following issue of a daily newspaper, or in the very next or following daily broadcast upon reception of the court ruling containing the correction; in the event of other media outlets, the correction shall be published in the very next issue or broadcast upon reception of the court ruling containing the correction.

If the information the correction is related to concerns an election candidate, the correction shall be published in the very next issue, or in the very next broadcast upon arrival of the court ruling containing the correction.

Deadlines in the Event of Death of a Natural Person or Termination of a Legal Person

Article 52

If the person the information regards has deceased or been terminated within the deadline envisaged for submitting a request to a reply or within the deadline for pressing charges for publication of a reply or correction, the deadline within which the request may be submitted shall be reckoned anew, from the time of death of the natural person or termination of a legal person.

Charges over the Publication of a Reply or Correction

Article 53

Charges shall be filed with the district court covering the territory where the seat of the founder is located.

The plaintiff may ask the court to order the publication of a reply or correction subject to payment of an appropriate amount of money to the plaintiff in the event of non-publication.

An issue or copy of the printed matter in which the information was published or, whenever possible, an audio and video recording of the programme in which the information was published, shall be submitted along with the charges.

If a new responsible editor has been appointed since the charges were filed and the plaintiff does not amend the charges until the completion of the main hearing, the court shall dismiss the charges.

The consent of neither the initial defendant nor the new responsible editor shall be necessary for amending the charges in Paragraph 4 of this Article.

The plaintiff may amend the text of the correction without the consent of the defendant until the conclusion of the main hearing.

The court shall not allow amending if it finds that the amendments abuse procedural authority, especially if a large number of amendments have been made, and the court shall reach a separate decision on this issue that may be appealed separately.

Order to Submit an Audio or Video Recording

Article 54

Upon reception of the charges regarding the publication of a reply or correction and at the request of the court, the responsible editor of an electronic media outlet that published the information shall without delay submit to the court the audio or video recording of the programme, under threat of a ruling against him/her if he/she fails to do so for no justifiable reason.

Submission of Multiple Replies

Article 55

If an authorized person presents several replies differing in content, either simultaneously or in succession, the responsible editor shall publish the one marked as authoritative.

If no reply has been marked as authoritative, the responsible editor shall publish the reply last received, and if the replies arrived simultaneously, he/she shall publish the one that is the most thorough.

Principle of Equality of Information and Reply or Correction

Article 56

The reply or correction shall be published in the same section of the media outlet, in the same edition, the same column, on the same page, with the same layout, or in the same segment of the TV or radio programme, as the original information which the reply or correction concerns and under the same title with the qualification "reply" or "correction".

If the layout of the information which the reply or correction concerns contains illustrations (tables, photos, drawings, video recording, etc.), the reply or correction may also contain illustrations.

The reply or correction shall be published integrally and immediately, except in the event that the information to which the reply or correction refers was published in instalments and the length of the reply or correction necessitates its publication in instalments.

If the TV or radio show that published the information to which the reply or correction refers was the only one or the last one in a series, the reply or correction shall be published in the programme most similar to the original one, or in the most similar time slot.

If the media outlet that published the information to which the reply or correction refers has ceased to exist, the reply or correction shall be published in the most similar media outlet or by some other means of public information at the expense of the persons to whom the rights and obligations of the media have been transferred, and, if there is no legal successor, it shall be published in the most similar media outlet or by another media outlet at the expense of the person that was the founder or responsible editor at the time of publication of the information to which that the reply or correction refers.

If a media outlet again publishes the information that prompted a reply or correction, or if a media outlet publishes information to which a reply or correction has already been published in another media outlet, the former media outlet shall simultaneously

with the information published whose reply or correction had been published, when and where, and shall publish a reply or correction upon request.

The reply or correction shall be published in the same language as the information replied to or corrected.

If the reply or correction is composed in a different language from the language in which the information being replied to or corrected concerns had been published, the responsible editor shall publish the reply or correction provided the holder of the right of reply or correction translates at his/her own expense the reply or correction into the language in which the information replied to or corrected had been published.

Ban on Amending or Commenting a Reply or Correction

Article 57

A reply or correction shall be published without any modifications, omissions or additions.

Only the most essential proofreading amendments that do not alter the sense shall be allowed.

If a media outlet publishes a reply or correction it has beforehand wholly or partly modified, the responsible editor shall upon request publish the original text of the reply or correction, or the original parts of the reply or correction.

A comment to the reply or correction in the same issue of the printed media outlet in which the reply or correction was printed, or in the same programme in which it was broadcast, and in the programmes broadcast on the same day the reply or correction was published, is prohibited.

A person has the right of reply to a comment or the right of correction of a comment.

Reasons for Not Publishing a Reply

Article 58

The responsible editor shall not be obliged to publish a reply or the court shall not order the responsible editor to publish a reply if:

1. the reply has been submitted by a person to whom the information does not personally refer or another unauthorized person;
2. a reply the same in content by an authorized person has already been published;
3. a reaction the same in content by an authorized person has already been published in the same media outlet in another, equally valid form (an interview, statement, etc.);

4. a lawsuit over the publication of a reply to the same piece of information submitted beforehand has not yet been completed.
5. the authorized person failed to provide his/her name and address, or name and seat in the request for a reply, and the missing data are unknown to the editor, or the submitted reply has not been signed;
6. the reply does not refer to the information to which that the submitter claims it refers;
7. the reply makes no reference to the information being replied to (title of the information, issue and page number of the media outlet in which it was published, name of the show and time of broadcast, etc) and the responsible editor cannot easily determine to which information it refers;
8. the reply refers to an opinion, not to an assertion of facts, or the reply does not contain an assertion of facts, but an opinion;
9. the reply does not dispute the accuracy, completeness or correct imparting of the information it refers to, or the reply refers to information which, even if inaccurate, incomplete or incorrectly imparted, is not likely to violate a person's rights or interests;
10. the reply has not been composed in the language in which the information to which it refers was published or has not been subsequently translated into that language;
11. the reply is disproportionately longer than the information to which it refers and the holder of the right of reply has failed to abridge it within the deadline for submitting a reply;
12. the reply has been submitted after the expiry of the deadline for submitting a reply;
13. the reply is illegible, incomprehensible or senseless, and has not been rectified within the deadline for submitting a reply;
14. the publication of the content of the reply may provoke a ban on the publication of that information, criminal or contravention charges, or civil law liability to a third party;
15. a reply has been submitted to the information, the correction of which has already been published or the information has already been revoked, or the effect that was to have been achieved by the publication of the reply or part of the reply has already been achieved, unless a repeated publication of the information is at issue;
16. the accuracy, completeness or correct imparting of the information to which the reply refers is obvious, generally known or established by a final decision of a competent body;

17. the content of the information to which the reply refers is the same in content as the information authorized by the person requesting the publication of the reply;
18. the inaccuracy, incompleteness or incorrect imparting of the information to which the reply refers is insignificant;
19. the reply refers to information stated in a public parliamentary debate or a public debate in a parliamentary body or in a court proceeding.

Reasons for the non-publication of a reply shall also apply to the non-publication of a part of the reply.

Informing of the Reason for the Non-Publication of a Reply

Article 59

If a media outlet or the programme in which the information to which the reply refers is published or broadcast at intervals exceeding 30 (thirty) days, the responsible editor shall within seven days of reception of the request for the publication of a reply inform the submitter of the request of the reason for refusing to publish the reply.

Reasons for the Court Not to Order the Publication of a Correction

Article 60

The court shall not order the responsible editor to publish a correction or part of a correction if the plaintiff fails to prove that the published information is inaccurate, incomplete or incorrectly imparted; if the information is inaccurate or incorrectly imparted but the court finds it does not infringe the rights of the person to whom it refers; or, for any reason for the non-publication of a reply listed in Paragraph 1, items 1, 2, 4, 6-18 of Article 58 of this Law which accordingly apply to corrections.

Urgency of Legal Procedure

Article 61

The legal procedure related to the publication of a reply or correction shall be urgent.

In the event of a lawsuit over publication of a reply, the case shall be allocated to a judge the same day the charges are received in court or the following day.

Main Hearing in the Lawsuit over the Publication of a Reply

Article 62

In lawsuits over the publication of a reply, no preliminary hearing shall be scheduled, nor shall the defendant be asked to present a response to the charges and the hearing sessions shall be scheduled at intervals not exceeding 8 days.

The first main hearing session shall be held within 8 days of the day the charges were filed with the court.

The court shall summon to the first main hearing session the plaintiff, the defendant and possibly witnesses.

The summons to the plaintiff shall include notice that it shall be deemed that the charges have been dismissed in the event of his/her absence from the first or any subsequent hearing sessions; the summons to the defendant shall include notice that judgment may be passed at the first hearing session in the event of his/her absence, and that, in the event of his/her absence from the following hearing sessions, the judgment shall be based on the facts previously established.

In lawsuits over the publication of a reply, no suspension may be applied to the case.

The restitution of the former status may be requested within one day of the end of exceptional circumstances.

The restitution of the former status may not be requested after the expiry of the five-day deadline from the day the procedural action is dismissed.

Main Hearing in the Lawsuit over the Publication of a Correction

Article 63

No preliminary hearing shall be scheduled in lawsuits over the publication of a correction.

The court shall order the defendant to present a response to the charges within eight days of delivery of the charges.

The first main hearing session shall be held within fifteen days of reception of the response to the charges or upon expiry of the deadline for responding to the charges.

The court shall summon to the first session of the main hearing the plaintiff, the defendant and possibly witnesses.

The summons to the plaintiff shall include notice that it shall be deemed that the charges have been dismissed in the event of the plaintiff's absence from the first or any other subsequent main hearing session; the summons to the defendant shall include notice that, in the event of his/her absence, judgment can be passed at the first main hearing session, and that in the event of his/her absence from the following hearing sessions, the judgment shall be based on the facts previously established.

In lawsuits over the publication of a correction, no suspension shall apply to the case.

Passing Sentence and the Sentence

Article 64

The court shall pass and publicly pronounce sentence immediately upon the conclusion of the main hearing.

A certified copy of the sentence shall be served to each party within three days of the pronouncement of the sentence.

If the court concurs to the plaintiff's request for the publication of a reply or correction, it shall order in the sentence the defendant to publish the reply or correction within the deadline specified in Articles 50 and 51 and in the manner set out in Article 56 of this Law.

Appeal and Motion for a Retrial over the Publication of a Reply

Article 65

The litigants may file an appeal within five days from the day they have been served a certified copy of the sentence.

The appeal shall not be served to the opposing party for a response.

The provision on presenting a submission by telegraph envisaged by a separate law on litigations shall not apply to lawsuits over the publication of a reply.

A properly and timely filed appeal, together with all the case files, shall be presented by the court of first degree to the court of second degree within two days of reception of the appeal.

The court of second degree shall rule on the appeal within five days of reception of the appeal and the case files.

A motion for a retrial may be presented for reasons set forth in items 1), 2), 4), 5), and 6) of Article 421 of the Law on Litigation and shall be presented within eight days of learning the reason for which a retrial is requested and not later than 30 days from the day the sentence became legally binding.

No revision of the ruling of the court of second degree may be requested.

Appeal, Motion for a Retrial and Revision of the Case over the Publication of a Correction

Article 66

The litigants may file an appeal within eight days of the day they were served a certified copy of the sentence.

The appeal shall be served to the opposing party for a response without delay, within 3 days of reception of the appeal at the latest.

The response to the appeal shall be made within three days of the reception of the appeal.

A properly and timely filed appeal, together with all the case files, shall be presented by the court of first degree to the court of second degree within five days of reception of the response to the appeal or upon expiry of the deadline for responding to an appeal.

The court of second degree shall rule on the appeal within eight days of reception of the appeal and the case files.

A motion for a retrial may be presented for reasons set forth in items 1), 2), 4), 5), and 6) of Article 421 of the Law on Litigation and shall be presented within eight days of learning the reason for which a retrial is requested and not later than 30 days from the day the sentence became legally binding.

Revision of the appellate ruling is admissible in the event the appeal has been dismissed and revision has been requested within 15 days of the day the appellate ruling has been served.

Serving the Final Sentence to the Founder

Article 67

A certified transcript of the final sentence ordering the publication of the reply or correction shall be served immediately also to the founder of the media outlet.

Appointment of a New Responsible Editor after Passing of Sentence

Article 68

If a new responsible editor has been appointed after the passing of a final sentence ordering the publication of a reply or correction, the obligation to publish the reply or correction specified in the sentence shall be transferred to the new responsible editor.

Consequences of Exceeding Deadlines

Article 69

If the court exceeds the deadlines set forth in Paragraph 2 of Article 62, Paragraph 2 of Article 64, Paragraph 4 of Article 65, and Article 67 and Articles 63 and 66 of this Law, the chairman of the court, acting on a motion of the plaintiff, shall reassign the case without delay to another panel of judges.

The actions undertaken by the panel of judges that handled the case originally and the actions undertaken by the litigants before the original panel of judges shall remain valid and need not be repeated.

Appropriate Application of the Law on Litigation

Article 70

Unless specified otherwise by this Law, provisions of the separate Law on Litigation shall accordingly apply to lawsuits over the publication of a reply or correction.

3. OMISSION TO PUBLISH INFORMATION

Charges over Omission to Publish Information

Article 71

If there is specific danger of repeated publication, a person may raise charges, demanding of the court to issue an injunction to the responsible editor banning the repeated publication of inaccurate, incomplete or otherwise inadmissible information infringing on that person's rights and to threaten the responsible editor with payment of an appropriate sum of money to the applicant in the event of breach of the injunction.

At the request of the person in Paragraph 1 of this Article, the court may order the responsible editor to publish within the deadlines set forth in Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 51 and free of charge the sentence banning the repeated publication of the information, unless a correction or revocation (recall of an assertion) has already been published or the court has already ordered in its ruling the publication of a correction or revocation.

The defendant shall bear the costs of the litigation if the danger of publication ceased after the charges were filed.

Application of Other Provisions of this Law

Article 72

The provisions of Article 48, Paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 of Article 53, Articles 54, 60 and Paragraph 1 of Article 61, Articles 63, 64, 66, 68, 69 and 70 shall apply accordingly.

The provisions of Paragraph 2 of Article 53, and Articles 56 and 57 of this Law shall apply accordingly to the publication of the sentence referred to in Paragraph 2 of Article 71 of this Law.

Temporary Injunction on the Repeated Publication of Information

Article 73

A person, whose rights may be breached by the publication of inaccurate, incomplete or otherwise inadmissible information, may ask the court to pronounce a temporary injunction until the enforceable completion of the proceedings, prohibiting the responsible editor from publishing the information again and threatening him/her with commensurate financial compensation to the plaintiff in the event he/she violates the injunction.

The plaintiff must prove the probability that there is a specific danger that the information will be published again, that the information is inaccurate, incomplete or

that its publishing would otherwise be inadmissible, and that considerable material or non-material damages may result from its publication.

The court shall consider the motion for a temporary injunction without delay, within 48 hours from the presentation of the motion.

An objection to the decision on the temporary injunction shall be presented not later than 48 hours after the injunction was served and the court shall rule on the objection within 48 hours.

4. INFORMATION ON THE OUTCOME OF CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS

Right to Publish Information

Article 74

If a media outlet published the information that criminal charges have been brought against a certain person, that person shall upon completion of the proceedings have the right to request of the responsible editor to publish free of charge the information on the legal suspension of the proceedings, dismissal of the charges, or acquittal.

Deadline for Submitting Requests and Content of the Information

Article 75

The request shall be submitted to the responsible editor within 30 days from the final completion of the criminal proceedings.

The information, the publication of which has been requested, shall contain only facts related to the final completion of the proceedings and not opinions and comments related to the original information.

Deadline for Publishing the Information

Article 76

The information shall be published in the very next issue or programme upon reception of the request for its publication.

Reasons for Non-Publication

Article 77

The responsible editor shall not be obliged to publish the information or part of the information referred to in Article 74 of this Law if:

1. its publication has been requested by an unauthorized person;
2. the media outlet has already published accurate, thorough and identical-in-content information on the completion of the criminal proceedings;

3. the authorized person failed to include in the request for publication his full name and address, and the missing data are unknown to the media outlet staff, or the authorized person failed to sign the request;
4. the request makes no reference to the original information and it cannot be easily established to which information it refers;
5. the information contains solely opinions or comments on the original information;
6. the information or part of the information on the final suspension of the proceedings, dismissal of the charges, or acquittal is untrue;
7. the information or part of the information is inappropriately long, and the applicant has failed to abridge it at the request of the media outlet within 15 days of request;
8. the request has been submitted after the deadline;
9. the publication of the content of the information or part of the information would provoke criminal or contravention charges, or civil liability to third parties.

Application of Other Provisions of this Law

Article 78

The provisions in Articles 56 and 57 of this Law shall apply accordingly to the publication of the information on the outcome of criminal proceedings.

5. MONETARY COMPENSATION OF DAMAGES

Right to Compensation of Damages

Article 79

Any person referred to in inaccurate, incomplete information or any other information, the publication of which is prohibited in accordance with this Law, and any person, whose reply to, correction or other information to whose publication the person is entitled in keeping with this Law has not been published and who has therefore suffered damages because of the publication or non-publication of such information, shall be entitled to compensation of material and non material damages, in keeping with the general provisions and articles of this Law, regardless of other legal remedies available to that person.

Joint Liability

Article 80

The journalist, the responsible editor and the legal person that is the founder of the media outlet, who would have been able through due diligence to establish the

inaccuracy or incompleteness of the information prior to its publication, shall bear joint liability for material and non-material damages caused by the publishing of the information.

The same obligation shall apply when damages have been caused by the inadmissible publication of accurate information (breach of privacy, blame for a committed criminal offence etc.), and in other instances of inadmissible publication of information.

Liability of the Journalist

Article 81

The author of the information, a journalist, shall be held liable for the damages inflicted by the publishing of inaccurate, incomplete information or information the publication of which is otherwise inadmissible if proven that he/she is to blame for the inflicted damages.

Exclusion of Liability

Article 82

The journalist, the responsible editor and the legal person that is the founder of the media outlet, shall not be held liable for damages if the inaccurate or incomplete information was an accurate quote from a public parliamentary debate, a public debate in a parliamentary body, a court proceeding or a document provided by a competent state body.

Expansion of Liability Referred to in Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Article 198 of the Law on Relationships of Obligation

Article 83

The author, the responsible editor and the legal person that is the founder of the media outlet, who would have been able to establish the inaccuracy or incompleteness of the information prior to its publication by due diligence, shall be held liable for the damages.

Objective Liability of the State

Article 84

The state shall always be held liable for damages caused by the publication of inaccurate or incomplete information provided by a state body, regardless of guilt.

Deadline for Filing a Lawsuit over Compensation of Damages

Article 85

A lawsuit over compensation for damages shall be filed within 6 months of the day the information was published.

Urgency of Legal Procedure

Article 86

The procedure in lawsuits over the compensation of damages shall be urgent.

Main Hearing in Damage Compensation Lawsuits

Article 87

No preliminary hearing shall be scheduled in lawsuits over the compensation of damages.

The court shall order the defendant to respond to the charges within 8 days of the day the charges were served.

The first session of the main hearing shall be held within fifteen days of the day the response to the charges was received, or upon expiry of the deadline for the reception of the response to the charges.

The court shall summon to the first main hearing session the plaintiff, the defendant and possibly witnesses.

The summons to the plaintiff shall include notice that it shall be deemed that the charges have been dismissed in the event of the plaintiff's absence from the first or any other subsequent session; the summons to the defendant shall contain notice that the ruling may be passed in the event of his/her absence at the first hearing session, and that in the event of his/her absence from the following sessions, the ruling shall be based on the facts previously established.

No suspension shall apply to the case in lawsuits over the compensation of damages.

Passing of Sentence

Article 88

The court shall pass and publicly pronounce sentence immediately upon concluding the main hearing.

A certified copy of the sentence shall be delivered to each party within three days of the day the sentence was passed.

Appeal, Request for Retrial and Revision of Lawsuit over the Compensation of Damages

Article 89

The litigants may file an appeal within eight days of reception of a certified copy of the sentence.

The appeal shall be served to the opposing party for a response without delay, within three days of reception of the appeal at the latest.

The response to the appeal shall be presented within 3 days of reception of the appeal.

A properly and timely filed appeal, together with all the case files, shall be presented by the court of first degree to the court of second degree within five days of reception of the response to the appeal, or upon expiry of the deadline for responding to the appeal.

The court of second degree shall rule on the appeal within eight days of reception of the appeal and the case files.

A motion for revision shall be presented within 15 days of the day of reception of the second-degree ruling.

Publication of the Sentence by the Media Outlet

Article 90

When the sentence becomes final, the responsible editor shall publish the sentence pronouncing the obligation to compensate the damages without commenting it and without delay, in the very next or following issue of a daily newspaper or in the very next or following daily broadcast.

In the event the responsible editor does not act in accordance with the provision in Paragraph 1 of this Article, the court competent for passing a decision on sentence enforcement shall, at the request of the plaintiff, fine the responsible editor in accordance with provisions of the law regulating the enforcement procedure and rule on the enforcement of the decision on the fine.

IX SUPERVISION

Article 91

The implementation of this Law shall be supervised by the Republic state administration body in charge of public information affairs, while, in the autonomous province the implementation of this Law shall be supervised by the provincial administration body responsible for public information affairs.

X PUNITIVE PROVISIONS

Commercial Offence

Article 92

A fine of between 100,000.00 and 1,000,000.00 dinars for an commercial offence shall be imposed upon a person involved in the distribution of media outlets that refuses to distribute a media outlet without a justified reason or if the person sets conditions for distribution contrary to market principles (Article 16).

A fine of between 10,000.00 and 200,000.00 dinars for the commercial offence in Paragraph 1 of this Article, shall also be imposed upon the responsible person in the legal person acting as a distributor of the media outlet.

Contraventions

Article 93

A fine of between 100,000.00 and 1,000,000.00 dinars for a contravention shall be imposed upon the legal person that is the founder of a media outlet if:

1. the media outlet fails to publish the identity with the prescribed content or in the prescribed manner (Articles 26-28);
2. the responsible editor has not been appointed, the editor-in-chief does not simultaneously have the status of responsible editor, or a person enjoying immunity from responsibility or a person without residence on the territory of the Republic of Serbia has been appointed responsible editor (Article 30);
3. it fails to honour the obligation of keeping copies (Article 35);
4. it fails to provide insight in the kept copies pursuant to the provisions of this Law (Article 36).

For the contravention referred to in item 1 of this Article, a fine of between 10,000.00 and 200,000.00 dinars shall also be imposed upon the responsible person in the legal person that is the media outlet founder.

Article 94

A fine of between 5,000.00 and 60,000.00 dinars for a contravention shall be imposed upon the responsible editor if the media outlet publishes a comment simultaneously with the reply, correction, subsequent information about the outcome of criminal proceedings, or about the sentence (Articles 57 and 90).

Article 95

A fine of 30,000.00 to 200,000.00 dinars for a contravention shall be imposed upon the responsible editor of a media outlet:

- 1) if in the published information someone is shown as the perpetrator of a punishable offence or as guilty or responsible before a final decision by a court or other competent authority (Article 37);

- 2) if the content of a media outlet that can endanger the development of minors is not clearly and visibly marked or if the minor is recognisable in the published information that is likely to damage his/her rights or interests (Article 41. Paragraph 2 and 3);
3. if the responsible editor fails to publish a reply, correction or subsequent information on the outcome of a criminal proceeding, or. does not publish the sentence when it becomes final or fails to publish it within the deadlines or in the manner envisaged by this Law (Paragraph 1 of Article 39, Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 50, Paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 51, Articles 56, 64, Paragraph 2 of Article 71, Article 76, and Paragraph 1 of Article 90);
4. if the responsible editor demands payment to publish a reply, correction or subsequent information on the outcome of a criminal proceeding or sentence (Paragraph 1 of Article 39, Paragraph 1 of Article 47, Paragraph 2 of Article 71, Paragraph 1 of Article 74, Paragraph 1 of Article 90).

Article 96

A fine of between 30,000.00 and 200,000.00 dinars for a contravention shall be imposed upon the legal person - the distributor of a media outlet that exposes printed matter with pornographic content publicly, making it accessible to minors over 14 years of age, or exposes printed matter containing pornography on the front or back cover page or lacking a clearly visible warning that it contains pornography or a warning that it is not intended for minors (Article 42).

An entrepreneur who is the distributor of the media outlet shall be imposed a fine of between 3,000.00 and 20,000.00 dinars for the contravention in Paragraph 1 of this Article.

The responsible person in the legal person that is the distributor of the media outlet shall also be imposed a fine of between 3,000.00 and 20,000.00 dinars for the contravention in Paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 97

A fine of between 20,000.00 and 400,000.00 dinars shall be imposed for a contravention upon a distributor - entrepreneur that refuses to distribute a media outlet without a justified reason or sets conditions for the distribution which are contrary to market principles (Article 16).

Article 98

A fine of between 100,000.00 and 1,000,000.00 dinars for a contravention shall be imposed upon a natural person who sets up a media outlet without previously setting up a legal person as the founder of the media outlet (Article 14)

Article 99

A fine of between 30,000.00 and 200,000.00 dinars shall be imposed for a contravention upon a legal person who attributes the authorship of information published in the media outlet to a person who is not the author of the information.

A fine of between 3,000.00 and 20,000.00 dinars shall be imposed on a natural person for the contravention in Paragraph 1 of this Article.

A fine of between 3,000.00 and 20,000.00 dinars shall be imposed on the responsible person in the legal person for the contravention in Paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 100

Funds collected from fines envisaged in Articles 92-99 of this Law shall be paid to a separate account controlled by the Republic of Serbia Finance and Economy Ministry and allocated to media outlets or journalists who had suffered financial or material damages during the implementation of the (previous) Public Information Law (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia, No 36/98 and 1/01).

XI TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 101

Media outlet founders shall bring their organizations and general acts into accord with the provisions of this Law within 90 days of the day this Law becomes effective.

Media outlets that are founded by the state or a territorial autonomy entity or a predominantly state-owned institution or company, or media outlets that are wholly or predominantly funded from public revenues and to which provisions of the Broadcasting Law do not apply, shall cease to operate within two years of the day this Law enters into force.

Article 102

With the entry into force of this Law, the provisions of the Law on Public Information (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia Nos. 36/98 and 11/2001) regarding the registration of media outlets and the publication of replies and corrections, the Law on Public Information System Bases (Official Herald of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia No 84/90 and Official Herald of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Nos. 11/93, 16/93, 31/93, 41/93, 50/93, 24/94 and 28/96) and the Law on Import and Dissemination of Foreign Mass Communication Media and Foreign Information Activities in Yugoslavia (Official Herald of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, Nos. 39/74 and 74/87 and Official Herald of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia Nos. 24/94 and 28/96) shall no longer be applicable.

Article 103

This Law shall enter into force on the day following the day of publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia.

THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS ARE CHANGES 71/2009 – WHICH ARE NOT INTEGRATED INTO THE TEXT

Article 7

The Minister responsible for public information operations shall pass a regulation on the keeping of the Register of Media Outlets within 30 days of the day on which this Law enters into force.

Founders of daily print media shall file an application to be entered into the Register of Media Outlets within 30 days of the day on which the regulation in Paragraph 1 of this Article has entered into force, whereas founders of other media shall file the application within a period of 90 days from the day on which the regulation from Paragraph 1 of this Article has entered into force.

Article 8

This Law shall enter into force on the eighth day after publication in the Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia.