

III MONITORING OF THE PROCESS OF ADOPTION OF NEW LAWS

In the period covered by this Report, the Serbian Parliament did not adopt any media specific regulations. The Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Copyright and Related Rights has been in procedure since August. These Amendments also aim to harmonize the said Law with international treaties and EU and WTO regulations. What could be relevant for the media is the streamlining of the provision concerning the suspension of exclusive copyright and right to remuneration in cases of informing the public about current events through the media. According to the current provision, when informing the public through the press, radio and television about current affairs, it is allowed, without the author's permission and without having to pay an author's fee, to copy a work and communicate such work in any form, only to the extent corresponding to the purpose and the manner of informing about the current event in question. The Draft Law on Amendments to the Law on Copyright and Related Rights expressly stipulates that this form of suspension of exclusive copyright and right to remuneration applies not only to press, radio and television, but also to other media, such as online media. The Draft Law also provides that it is possible, without the author's permission and without having to pay an author's fee, to use short excerpts or recaps from newspaper articles and similar articles, political, religious and other speeches delivered in state authorities, religious institutions or on the occasion of state or religious holidays, as well as daily information and news that have the nature of a press report.