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| **COUNCIL WORKING GROUP ON CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION** 17th meeting, Virtual meeting, 26 January 2021 |  |
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**CONTRIBUTION BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**EXPERIENCE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION IN CHILD ONLINE PROTECTION**

Information and communication technologies and social media are playing an increasingly important role in the everyday life of minors. They have the most direct impact on the emotional and physical development of the younger generation.

Ensuring the rights of minors in the digital environment is one of the priorities of state policy, with the Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation taking part in its implementation.

In general, there is a high-quality and fairly extensive legal framework in place to ensure implementation and protection of children's rights in the information environment. One of the key rights of a child in the information environment is the right to information security, which ensures protection and eliminates the risk for information, including that disseminated on the Internet, to harm their health, physical, mental, spiritual and moral development[[1]](#footnote-1).

The legal acts governing the protection of children’s rights online and, in particular, ensuring the information security of minors, include:

* [Federal Law of the Russian Federation No 124-FZ of July 24, 1998](http://www.consultant.ru/document/cons_doc_LAW_19558/) “On Basic Guarantees for the Rights of the Child in the Russian Federation”,
* [Federal Law of the Russian Federation No 152-FZ of July 27, 2006](http://www.consultant.ru/document/cons_doc_LAW_61801/) “On Personal Data”,
* [Federal Law of the Russian Federation No 149-FZ of July 27, 2006 (amended December 02, 2019)](http://www.consultant.ru/cons/cgi/online.cgi?from=302975-0&rnd=033BB3877A332FC533544E465F08B0AC&req=doc&base=LAW&n=339396&REFDOC=302975&REFBASE=LAW#t9pusrw4up) “On Information, Information Technologies and Information Protection”,
* [Federal Law of the Russian Federation No 436-FZ of December 29, 2010](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5C%D0%9C%D0%B0%D1%80%D0%B8%D1%8F%20%D0%91%D0%BE%D0%BB%D1%8C%D1%88%D0%B0%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%B0%5CDocuments%5C%D0%9D%D0%B0%D1%81%D1%82%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B8%D0%B2%D0%B0%D0%B5%D0%BC%D1%8B%D0%B5%20%D1%88%D0%B0%D0%B1%D0%BB%D0%BE%D0%BD%D1%8B%20Office) “On Protecting Children from Information Harmful to Their Health and Development”,
* [Executive Order of the President of the Russian Federation No 761 of June 1, 2012](http://base.garant.ru/70183566/) “The National Strategy of Action in Favor of Children for 2012 – 2017”,
* [Federal Law of the Russian Federation No 187-FZ of July 2, 2013](http://www.consultant.ru/cons/cgi/online.cgi?req=doc&ts=330996291023377481243619902&cacheid=285FAFC58A58BF47EF7C031FB9054B4D&mode=splus&base=LAW&n=160239&rnd=1E34D4FA66B48121EAD025BA4B362483#07058436842670593) “On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of the Russian Federation Concerning the Protection of Intellectual Rights in Information and Telecommunication Networks”,
* [Executive Order of the President of the Russian Federation No 683 of December 31, 2015](http://www.consultant.ru/cons/cgi/online.cgi?req=doc&ts=330996291023377481243619902&cacheid=4E7C4ED880C89B84CC2966978BF0CD2D&mode=splus&base=LAW&n=191669&rnd=1E34D4FA66B48121EAD025BA4B362483#0017966335928141453) “On National Security Strategy of the Russian Federation”,
* [Order of the Government of the Russian Federation No 2471-r of December 2, 2015](http://minobr.gov-murman.ru/bitrix/components/b1team/govmurman.element.file/download.php?ID=146395&FID=104363) “On approval of the Concept of information security of children”,
* [Letter of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation No 09-1995 of October 3, 2017](http://www.garant.ru/products/ipo/prime/doc/71703766/) “Methodical recommendations for carrying out activities to improve the legal literacy of children, parents (legal representatives) and teachers involved in raising children”,
* [Order of the Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation No 88 of February 27, 2018](http://edu.kandalaksha-admin.ru/images/docs/informatiz/2018/27.02.2018_88.doc) “On the approval of the action plan for the implementation of the Concept of information security of children for 2018 – 2020”,
* [Letter of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation No 08-1184 of May 5, 2018](http://rulaws.ru/acts/Pismo-Minobrnauki-Rossii-ot-14.05.2018-N-08-1184/) “Methodological recommendations on placing information on safe behavior in and use of the Internet on information stands, official Internet sites and other information resources of educational organizations and authorities in charge of education”,
* [Letter of the Ministry of Education of the Russian Federation No 03-393 of March 29, 2019](https://rusedu.center/docs/category/3-pismo-minobr.html?download=1576:minpros-pismo-03-393-ot-29-03-19) “On methodological recommendations (contains Methodological recommendations for the implementation of measures aimed at ensuring the safety of children on the Internet)”.

**Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation** considers the Federal Law **No 436-FZ** of December 29, 2010 “On Protecting Children from Information Harmful to Their Health and Development” to be the key from the point of view of ensuring children’s rights online. The law covers almost all information areas: television, radio broadcasting, the Internet and print media. The law divides all information into information that is harmful to the health and development of children, including both information that is completely prohibited for dissemination among children, and information that is restricted to dissemination among children of certain age groups, as well as information that a child may find himself.

This Law also stipulates the use of a visual sign for information products affixed by the manufacturer or information provider according to the classification by age — “6+”, “12+”, “16+”, “18+”. In addition, this is a reference point for parents which is designed to draw their attention to the specificities of information products. Dissemination of information, prohibited for children’s viewing, is not allowed without the label, except for an information, disseminated via Internet, except for online outlets.

It is also not allowed to disseminate prohibited information without the use of administrative and organizational measures, technical and software and hardware tools for protection against such information where children can access it, as well as in educational institutions, children’s medical, sanatorium–and-health-resort, physical education and sports institutions, cultural organizations, organization of children's leisure and improvement of their health or at a distance of less than 100 meters from the boundaries of the territories of the above-mentioned organizations.

The latest version of the Federal Law No **149-FZ** of March 13, 2006 “On information, Informational Technologies and Information Protection” includes an Article 15.1: "Unified register of the domain names, website references and network addresses that allow identifying websites containing information circulation of which is forbidden in the Russian Federation", which includes, among others, a prohibition of the numerous types of information which are capable to cause harm to minors.

Another equally important document aimed at ensuring and protection of rights of children in information environment is the Federal Law No **124-FZ** of July 24, 1998 “On Basic Guarantees for the Rights of the Child in the Russian Federation”. Article 14 of the said Federal Law establishes the duty of State authorities of the Russian Federation to take measures "on protection of child from information, propaganda and agitation which harm his health, moral and spiritual development, including from national, class, social tolerance, from advertising of alcohol and tobacco products, from information of a pornographic nature as well as from dissemination of printed material, audio-, video productions which promote cruelty, drug abuse, chemical abuse, antisocial behavior".

A range of Articles of the Federal Law No **38-FZ of** March 13, 2006 “On Advertising” stipulates restrictions related to the content and dissemination of advertising harmful to the child’s health and (or) development.

[Rules for media coverage of anti-social acts (crimes) with the participation of minors, cases of suicide of minors as well as recommendations to cover such an information in the Internet](https://digital.gov.ru/ru/activity/directions/741/#section-docs), were published by the Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Media of the Russian Federation on April 02, 2019.

In addition to the above laws, a whole range of secondary legislations is in force, ensuring implementation of legislation, regulating the protection of minors in information environment. In general, there is a high-quality and fairly extensive legal framework in place in the Russian Federation to ensure implementation and protection of children's rights in the information environment. It is important to note that upholding the rights of children in information environment efficiently and ensuring their informational security requires ongoing system work and coordination of all levels of authority, law enforcement agencies, educational society, children’s and youth organizations, parents (legal representatives) and other stakeholders.

1. Federal Law of the Russian Federation No 436-FZ of December 29, 2010 "On Protecting Children from Information Harmful to Their Health and Development". [↑](#footnote-ref-1)