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OPEN SOCIETY INSTITUTE  
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# **MONITORING THE ARMENIAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2007**

2007

Yerevan

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# **ARMENIA BEFORE THE ELECTIONS TO RA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN 2007**

## **ROLE AND SIGNIFICANCE OF ELECTIONS**

The importance of parliamentary elections in 2007 in Armenia was due to a whole number of domestic and external political factors. The redistribution of competence in favor of the legislature, the transformation of the Republic of Armenia from a presidential to a semi-presidential due to the constitutional reform in 2005 by themselves enhanced the weight of the NA Deputy mandate.

It is about the first time since 1990 that the elections to the legislative body played a decisive role in forming power. Then, 17 years ago it defined whether the communists would manage to keep the power or would be replaced by the anti-communist forces, raising the question of cessation from the USSR. The parliamentary elections of 2007 preceded the presidential ones, where the new head of state is to be elected, and their results in many ways predetermined both the candidates for presidency as well as their chances.

Besides, it was extremely important for Armenia as a state to show progress in election administration. In the documents of international organizations it was repeatedly noted that no elections in this country were up to democratic standards, and another negative assessment of the observers would have been a huge blow to its reputation. This was particularly important in the context of Armenia's involvements in the US Millennium Challenge Account and the European Neighborhood Policy. Another undemocratic election could result in a stoppage of funding under Millennium Challenge Account and the slowing of the participation of the country in the European integration processes.

Elections were of interest also in the context of Karabagh issue. The experience of the previous years showed that during the election campaigns the effectiveness of the negotiations on the conflict resolution under the OSCE Minsk Group is reduced, and no specific results should be expected at least till the end of 2008 when in Mountainous Karabagh, in Armenia and in Azerbaijan presidential elections will be held. Nevertheless, every step to strengthen democracy is considered to be a trump card in the clash of the parties, and in this regard the response of the international community acquired additional importance.

## **GENERAL SITUATION OVERVIEW BEFORE THE ELECTIONS**

The development of the country in political, economic and social spheres has over the past years been positively assessed by the Armenian authorities as well as a number of international structures. In particular, as an important step in democracy development the reform of the RA Constitution was noted. The double-digit figures of economic growth during the past years were viewed to be a result of stability, a successful national policy and effective governance.

At the same time, the progress over a number of directions has been of dubious nature, and the deficiencies and failures touched the interests of the public at large and told on the pre-election sentiment both in the society and among the majority of political forces. Statement of consistent implementation of commitments to the Council of Europe co-exists with a high degree of mistrust in the Armenian society towards the official results of the national referendum in November 2005, during which the amendments to the RA Constitution were passed, and the critical assessment of the democracy and human rights situation by the international human rights organizations.

The high economic growth rates in the country, the reduction of poverty and the strengthening of the Armenian national currency are to a certain degree questioned by a number of independent experts. The main source of finance inflow, ensuring a certain animation at the inner consumer market, are the charity and personal money transfers of Armenian Diaspora. The economy growth is attained due to the industries that do not guarantee sustainable development - primarily, the construction. The increase of salaries of the employees of the state budget sphere and the revenues of major entrepreneurs is accompanied by a drastic growth of prices and the reduction in the real purchasing power of the socially most vulnerable segment of population. The strengthening of the Armenian dram exchange rate is in line with the interests of the importers, but creates serious problems for the Armenian producers, increasing the foreign trade deficit, reducing the real revenues of a significant part of the population, surviving though the help of foreign relatives and the families of the multithousand migrant worker army.

The economic prospects of the country are significantly conditioned by the overcoming of its partial blockage, expressed by the refusals of Azerbaijan to have any form of cooperation with Armenia, its involvement in the regional energy and communication projects, as well as the closed Armenian-Turkish border upon the initiative of Ankara.

Among the main problems of the country are the corruption, the environment, the demographic situation and emigration. Despite the implementation of a large-scale anticorruption program with the support of reputable international structures, in the perceptions of the people the corruption level does not reduce at best. One of its main factors is the joining of the state structure with the major business. The experts speak about a real danger of “state capture” in this regard. There are obvious signs of concentration of property and monopolization of market segments, in which high-ranked officials take an active part.

The ecologists are seriously alarmed by the deforestation, caused by intensive woodcuts that continue even after the energy crisis of early 1990s and the dramatic reduction in green areas. The instable social situation conditions the low birth rate and the outflow of the workforce. There is more than one pensioner per an employed person, and this indicator has a trend for deterioration.

One of the main problems in human rights domain between the parliamentary elections of 2003 and 2007 was the alienation of the property of citizens for “the needs of the state”, manifest in eviction of people from their home with not always adequate compensation and the auctioning of the areas, mostly in the center of Yerevan, for demolition and further construction. Despite the ruling of the Constitution Court that recognized such actions to be a violation of constitutional rights in early 2006, the state of affairs has hardly changed, and after the parliament adopted a law, giving the state corresponding competence, the practice of alienation continued - presently “on legal ground”.

## **THE PRE-ELECTION POLITICAL BREAKDOWN**

The main struggle, judging from the findings of sociological research and the political forecasts, was to evolve between the Republican Party of Armenia (RPA), making the skeleton of the ruling coalition, and the newly created “Prosperous Armenia” party. The political potential of RPA that has the biggest faction in the parliament increased even more after it was joined in July 2006 by the RA Minister of Defense Serge Sargsian, seen as the most probable candidate for presidency. Almost at the same time with the Minister RPA was joined by a large group of major entrepreneurs, many of whom joined the party governing body as well. After the death of the RA Prime Minister and leader of the “Republicans” Andranik Margarian in March 2007 Serge Sargsian took his place, heading the government and consolidated the leadership of the party in his hands.

“Prosperous Armenia” announced its political ambitions in late 2005 - early 2006. Its leader, one of the biggest entrepreneurs of Armenia Gagik Tsarukian from mid-2006 started an active charity campaign that significantly improved the party rating and contributed to the mass growth of its members. According to “Prosperous Armenia” itself, by the end of the pre-election year, in terms of members it was ahead of all other Armenian parties. The future party list of “Prosperous Armenia” for a long time was one of the main political intrigues; there were lots of rumors around it and little specific information. Only in early 2007 the “ruling core” was formed, adding on the party image that used to be associated solely with Gagik Tsarukian. The presence in the core group of high-ranked officials, including members of the President’s Staff, implied the pro-governmental stance of the party, which did not exclude, however, its real competition with RPA for seats at the parliament.

One of the loud political events of 2006 was the withdrawal of “Orinats Yerkir” party from the ruling coalition. The leader of the party Arthur Baghdasarian before that had held the position of the Chairman of the National Assembly. The most frequently quoted reasons were the controversies within the coalition on the issues of foreign policy directions yet, apparently, the differences of the party with its partners in the views on the short-term political prospects of “Orinats Yerkir” and its leader were just as important a factor. The move of “Orinats Yerkir” to opposition told both on itself – the party was left by a number of MP businessmen, who were important for the resource provision to the party – and on the structure of the opposition camp in general, the appearance of a big and ambitious political force there made much change to the pre-election breakdown. The place of “Orinats Yerkir” in the coalition was taken by the United Labor Party that had been in close cooperation with the government before, too.

The third coalition party, “Dashnaktsutun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation, despite being at power had repeatedly voiced a different stance on a number of important issues of domestic policy. In

particular, it had its own vision of the anticorruption program and was consistently advocating the introduction of dual citizenship institute, the law about which had been passed not long before the elections.

2003-2007 were years of serious ordeals for parliamentary opposition. Failures to gain ground on a whole number of principal issues, including the draft amendments to the RA Constitution, provoked it to boycott most of the parliamentary sessions. This significantly complicated the situation of parties, making up the biggest opposition bloc, "Justice", and "National Unity" party. The internal conflicts between the opposition parties and politicians, represented at the National Assembly, campaign to discredit them waged by pro-governmental and the disappointment with them in the independent media, the loss of the main funding sources weakened the opposition. The negotiations over some effective forms of cooperation among the main opposition forms in the elections of 2007 were practically futile, too. The existence of a 5% barrier for the elections by propositional representation systems and the participation of 23 parties/bloc in them made the diffusion and loss of a certain electoral resource of the opposition certain from the very start.

As a consequence, a number of parties refused to fight completely. The National Democratic Union and its head, one of the most experienced and reputable Armenian politicians of the last 20 years Vazgen Manukian, as well as the veteran of Armenia's independence movement and a political prisoner of the Soviet times Paruir Hairikian announced the delay of their political plans till the presidential elections of 2008. The Armenian National Movement, the ruling party in 1990-1998, withdrew from the pre-election race ten days before the voting. Once again the hopes of their supporters to have the first RA President Levon Ter-Petrosian back in the big politics did not come true.

Along with this "Heritage" party made a serious emergence before the elections. The party is headed by the first Minister of Foreign Affairs (1991-1992) of the independent Armenia Raffi Hovannisian. "Impeachment" bloc announced its appearance as that of new, active opposition, strongly critical of the government. Shortly before the elections from a temporary shadow "New Times" party emerged, headed by Aram Karapetian, who had arrived the fourth at presidential elections of 2003. "Impeachment", "New Times" and "Republic" party (one of the two main participants in "Justice" faction of the parliament) were actively interacting during the pre-election promotion, but each of them ran in elections alone.

A distinctive place among the candidate parties was taken by the Popular Party. Its leader, the owner of "ALM" TV company Tigran Karapetian, who had earned a significant fortune doing business in Russia, made a stake on charity and many-hour TV programs of populist nature. Shortly before the elections the party list of the Popular Party was joined by a group of businessmen who had previously left "Orinats Yerkir" because it had moved to opposition. This was a sufficient indicator of favorable attitude of authorities to the Popular Party.

## **INNOVATIONS**

Apart from the increased role of the parliament in the political system of Armenia, the elections of 2007 were marked by other principal innovations. In particular, the RA Electoral Code had a change of proportion between the party seats and the majority seats at the National Assembly: 90:41 instead of 75:56. The proportionate representation system was introduced in Armenia in 1995 and since that time the number of proportional seats is gradually increased. Before the present elections the opposition demanded a 100% proportionate representation system, whereas a major part of the pro-governmental forces, on the contrary, was not interested in redistributing the shares of proportionate and majority seats. This was explained by the big role of administrative and financial opportunities in majority territories, where the representatives of the numerous business group in pro-governmental parties had an undisputed advantage. On their behalf, the parties which were not so closely linked to business aspired to use their advantage in the purely political competition.

As a result, a compromise was attained. However, the trend for increasing the share of proportional seats induces the business elite, interested in political influence levers, to establish parties or join the existing ones. The examples of the Republican Party of Armenia, "Prosperous Armenia" party, the United Labor Party and the Popular Party reflect this process.

A significant influence on the electoral process was made by the legislative introduction of the dual citizenship in Armenia. The discussions on the issue evolved in the country since the restoration of the independence. Having come to power in 1998, the RA President Robert Kocharian announced the

introduction of dual citizenship to be a main item on his political agenda. Year 2007 was his last chance to overcome the resistance of opponents and fulfill his promise. The main argument of the opponents of dual citizenship was the existence of Armenian Diaspora that is at least twice as numerous as the population of Armenia. Correspondingly, the entitling the foreign Armenians to having RA citizenship was enabling them to play a decisive role in political process. Meanwhile, as the opponents of the institute believe, the power in Armenia must be formed by people who live in the country.

The result of the lengthy debate was the compromise, according to which the voting at elections can only be made on the territory of Armenia. By this, the possible influence of Diaspora Armenians on forming the power in RA, even if holding Armenian citizenship, was restricted. On the other hand, this legislative provision deprived the citizens of Armenia who reside or temporarily visit abroad of a chance to vote (by different estimates, these people constitute up to one million people, that is, about 1/3 of the total population). In 2007 for the first time the polling stations at the RA diplomatic missions were not open, which caused much criticism in terms of observing the civil and political rights.

## **MEDIA SITUATION**

In the Armenia section of the annual report on human rights developments of "Human Rights Watch" international organization, released on January 11, 2007, the media situation in the country was discussed, too. In the opinion of "Human Rights Watch", "the Armenian government has done little to address serious human rights violations" and "threats to the media freedom continued in 2006 as more journalists faced harassment and attacks and broadcast media lack pluralism and remain largely pro-governmental".

The RA President, the report noted, appoints all members of bodies that regulate and manage broadcast media, including the Council of Public TV and Radio Company, responsible for policies and programming of the First Channel of the Public Television of Armenia. Being under government control, the PTA First Channel "does not sufficient independence to provide objective and diverse news coverage".

The report also told the example of "A1+" TV company being evicted from the premises owned by the National Science Academy. Having been deprived of air in 2002, "A1+" has lost 12 broadcast licensing competitions, including a radio competition in March 2006, "Human Rights Watch" recalls. Having lost in 2005 a litigation versus the National Science Academy, in 2006 the company moved to a location provided by the government that at the time of the move lacked electricity and telephone connections, forcing "A1+", its "Ayb-Feh" weekly and the web-site to suspend all work for several weeks.

Among the examples of harassment against journalists, "Human Rights Watch" noted the incidents that occurred on February 23 and in the morning of May 16 with the Executive Director of "Lori" TV company Narine Avetisian. In the first case she was threatened by the owner of the local minibus route, in the second - her car was stoned by unknown people who have never been found. "Human Rights Watch" notes also the July 12 incident that happened to freelance journalist Gagik Shamshian, harassed by relatives and associates of the head of Nubarashen community of Yerevan Mher Hovhannisian, and the criminal proceedings instituted against the journalist on August 3, basing on several appeals of citizens and with the charges of insult, cheating and extortion. The report also quotes the attack on the Chief Editor of "Irvunk" newspaper Hovhannes Galajian of September 6. In the opinion of Galajian, the attack was retaliation for his articles, criticizing the government.

The sentence of the Chief Editor of "Zhamanak-Yerevan" daily Arman Babajanian, made by the court on September 8 (4 years' imprisonment for document fraud to evade military service), was assessed in the report of "Human Rights Watch" as harsh, "suspected to be retribution for the journalist's persistent criticism of government policies". (Further the Court of Appeals somewhat mildened Babajanian's punishment, reducing the imprisonment term by half a year - *Ed. Note.*)

The US Department of State, the International Press Institute and the Committee to Protect Journalists noted in their reports mostly the same problems, faced by Armenian media.

According to the Resolution of Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe of January 23, 2007, the amendments to the RA Constitution have paved the way for greater independence of the bodies, which regulate broadcast media, yet the draft law package was subsequently drawn up by the government without first consulting media or Council of Europe representatives and met with strong

criticism, not least concerning the membership of the National Commission of Television and Radio and the method of appointment of its members. In this regard the Assembly urged the Armenian authorities to consult the CE experts and take into account their recommendations before adopting amendments to the Law "On Television and Radio". The Assembly also called on authorities to adopt an open, transparent process of appointing members of the Council of Public TV and Radio Company in accordance with the recommendations of Venice Commission. (However, these clauses of the Resolution were never implemented: the amendments to the broadcast law were adopted contrary to its appeals - *Ed. Note*).

The PACE Resolution notes that "a few months away from forthcoming parliamentary elections, the Assembly attaches special importance to pluralism of the electronic media", since "equitable access by all political parties" to them is "an absolute prerequisite for the holding of free and fair elections".

On February 15 the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights released the Needs Assessment Mission Report, produced after the Mission's visit to Armenia on January 30 - February 2, 2007. The purpose of the Mission was to assess the conditions and level of preparation in Armenia for the parliamentary elections upcoming on May 12, 2007, in line with OSCE commitments and to advise on the establishment of the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission. The report noted, in particular: "While equal access to public and private media is guaranteed by law during the official campaign period, including free airtime on public TV and radio, the opposition claims very limited media access in the current period before the official campaign is due to begin. This is reportedly the result of administrative obstacles and self-censorship. Moreover, many NAM interlocutors expressed concerns that media access will remain unequal during the official campaign period".

During the previous elections, the report states, the media, especially the private ones, were criticized for not providing equal access to contestants and demonstrating bias. Noting the high rates of public and private TV companies for political advertising in 2003 elections, the Mission quotes many of its interlocutors, who fear that this can also be the case during the upcoming elections. (The tariffs for political advertising during the pre-election promotion on the leading channels, announced in early February to be 80-130 thousand AMD or \$ 230-370 per minute, exceeding the commercial advertising tariffs confirmed that these fears had been justified - *Ed. Note*).

In the section of the report on media it was stressed that "television remains the main source of information and can be described as predominantly pro-government, despite the formal transformation of state TV into a public service broadcaster, and the existence of numerous private channels, many of which are de facto linked to political parties". In the opinion of OSCE/ODIHR Mission, "the print media is seen as more pluralistic and news coverage is diverse and critical, however circulations are limited".

The PACE Resolution above shared this last assessment of the Mission, and it was noted with satisfaction that "no criminal libel proceedings have been instituted against journalists for some years now", and "since the reform of the Criminal Code in 2004, libel has been punishable by a prison sentence only in the event of a repeat offence". At the same time the Assembly stressed the need to decriminalize libel and to repeal Article 318 of the RA Criminal Code "Insulting a representative of public authorities".

On May 1, "Freedom House" international organization published its annual global survey on freedom of press in 2006. The Armenian media for the fifth year already (since 2002) are classed as not free by this organization. Before that, they were seen as "partly free".

Before the parliamentary elections of 2007 the representatives of the media community of Armenia attempted to make a step forwards towards the formation of media self-regulation institute in the country. On March 10, 2007 Yerevan Press Club hosted a meeting of heads of media and journalistic associations, who supported the YPC initiative to jointly develop the main norms of professional ethics and further follow them in their day-to-day activities. At the meeting the Code of Conduct of Media Representatives was adopted and signed by 18 media. The signatories also committed to the Declaration on Election and Referendum Coverage Principles, narrated in the Appendix to the Code.

# OVERVIEW OF THE LEGISLATION REGULATING THE ACTIVITIES OF MEDIA DURING ELECTIONS

The pre-elections promotion and the media coverage of elections are regulated by Chapters 4 (Articles 18-23), 16 (Articles 79-81) and 22 (Articles 112-113) of the RA Electoral Code.

There is also a provision in the RA Law “On Television and Radio”, Article 11 of which stipulates:

***“In the period, prior to the promotion for referenda and elections and during their administration the TV and radio programs are broadcast in accordance with the legislation on elections and referenda.***

***During this period the TV and radio companies are prohibited from broadcasting political or other promotional materials disguised as news, editorial, documentary, author or other programs. The dissemination of such programs on television must be accompanied by the mandatory uninterrupted title on the screen, reading “political advertising” or “pre-election promotion program”, and in case of radio dissemination a reminder about it must be made at least three times during each program.***

***In the period of the promotion for referenda and elections the TV and radio companies make public announcement of the cost of for their airtime for paid political advertising and other promotional programs. Those interested use the paid airtime on a contractual basis and by equal terms.”***

Firstly, the second paragraph of the Article, in essence, prohibits the implicit political advertising. And if that is the meaning of the provision, the prohibition should not be referring only to the periods of referenda and elections. The implicit advertising, whether political or commercial, must be completely prohibited. Otherwise it appears that ***“political or other promotional materials disguised as news, editorial, documentary, author or other programs”*** can be broadcast out of elections. Hence the proposal: at any time the promotional materials must be disseminated only as political advertising and must bear an appropriate notice.

Another definition, giving rise to diverging interpretations, is ***“the period, prior to the promotion for referenda and elections”***. When comparing the name of the Article, “TV and radio programs during referenda and elections” against this definition, the rationale prompts that ***the prior period*** is the one that starts on the day elections are announced and lasts till the start of the pre-election promotion (starts the day after the deadline stipulated for the registration of candidates, parties, party blocs). However, the dubious interpretation of the definition in practice results in ineffective application of the Article. It would have been more appropriate to define strictly the period prior to promotion, wording it as follows - “between the day when the elections are announced and the start of the pre-election promotion”. Dissemination of promotional materials (political advertising) must be also completely prohibited during this period to create maximally equal conditions for political parties and candidates, running in elections.

The RA Electoral Code in its current version (after the elections of 2003 the Code was amended for three times - in May 2005, December 2006 and February 2007), is quite progressive in terms of ensuring equal conditions for the pre-election promotion of parties and majority candidates and the coverage of pre-election campaigns.

The issue of the pre-election promotion is raised also in Articles 18-23 of the RA Electoral Code. The media promotion is discussed in the following clauses of Article 18 “The main principles of pre-election promotion”:

***“3. Candidates and parties are guaranteed equal terms for using mass media - airtime or space, tariffs, etc.***

***(...)***

***5. The pre-election promotion starts on the last day envisaged for the registration of candidates and parties and ends one day before the voting day. On the voting day and the day that precedes***



***it any pre-election promotion is prohibited. The promotional materials that are not in the precinct center remain in their places on the voting day.***

***6. The pre-election promotion may be made through mass media, as well as public pre-election events (through holding pre-election assemblies and meetings with the voters, public pre-election debates, discussions, rallies, marches, demonstrations), through publishing print materials, disseminating audio and video recordings.”***

The RA Law “On Introducing Amendments and Additions to the Electoral Code of the Republic of Armenia”, adopted on May 19, 2005, almost completely revised Article 20 of the EC “Pre-election promotion through mass media” (in future this article was also subjected to insignificant editing by the RA Law “On Introducing Amendments and Additions to the Electoral Code of the Republic of Armenia” of December 22, 2006).

Below this Article is quoted in full:

***“1. Candidates for the Presidency of the Republic and parties (party blocs), running in elections to the National Assembly, are entitled to free and paid use of airtime (also on live air) on the public radio and public television on equal terms.***

***2. The procedure for providing free airtime on public radio and public television of Armenia and its schedule for the candidates for the Presidency of the Republic and the parties (party blocs), running in elections to the National Assembly, are defined for each national elections by the Central Election Commission, the next day after the deadline stipulated for the candidate registration.***

***3. The public TV and public radio are to ensure equal conditions for all candidates and parties (party blocs), running in elections.***

***The news reports on the pre-election campaign of the candidates, parties or party blocs, as broadcast by the public TV Company and public radio, must provide impartial and assessment-free information with ensuring fair and equal conditions.***

***The fact that a candidate, party or party bloc, running in elections, does not hold events or the lack of information about these events cannot be a ground for non-publishing appropriate information about the campaigns of other election participants in the mass media.***

***4. Not later than 10 days after the scheduling of national elections the information about the price per minute of paid airtime on the public radio and public TV company must be published. In the course of pre-election promotion this price is not subject to change.***

***5. Candidates and parties (party blocs), running in elections to the National Assembly, have a right to use the airtime of other radio and TV companies, regardless of their ownership forms, on equal terms. The provisions of clauses 3-4 of the present Article equally apply to other radio and TV company, regardless of the form of their ownership.***

***6. The pre-election promotion via mass media is implemented in the form of public discussions, round tables, press-conferences, interviews, political advertising and other forms, not prohibited by the law.***

***7. It is prohibited to interrupt the radio and TV programs, dealing with pre-election promotion, by advertisements of goods or services.***

***8. During the broadcasting of radio and TV programs dealing with pre-election promotion their audio and video recording is made. These records are stored at least three months.***

***9. The control over the observation of the procedure for pre-election promotion by TV and radio companies is implemented by the National Commission on Television and Radio that has a right of addressing the court, should violation of the existing procedure for the pre-election promotion***

***be found. The Central Election Commission has a right to submit an opinion on the violations to the court.***

***10. The newspapers and magazines, regardless of who their founders are, but for the newspapers and magazines founded by a party, when publishing promotional materials must ensure equal conditions.”***

In this version, unlike the Electoral Code in force till 2005, the Article is more distinct in regulating the activities of broadcast media during the pre-election period. Firstly, the demand of ensuring impartial and assessment-free information was added, and secondly, the requirement of announcing airtime tariffs not later than 10 day after the elections day is appointed is now applied to the private broadcasters, too.

The legislative requirement of ensuring impartial and assessment-free information, particularly in the case of private TV and radio companies may be qualified as an interference with the editorial independence; however, proceeding from the fact that Armenian broadcasters so far do not have a clear-cut independent policy of covering elections (codes of conduct), and therefore, a voluntary obligation to disseminate impartial information only, the presence of this provision is justified. At the same time the concept of “impartial and assessment-free” does not have a clear legal definition and may be interpreted subjectively. Hence, this does not compensate for the lack of self-regulation mechanisms.

As to the public and private broadcasters setting tariffs for paid air, the experience of both 2003 and 2007 shows: these prices are disproportionately high for the limited pre-election funds of the parties/blocs and majority candidates (in the course of pre-election promotion the candidate has a right to spend an amount, not exceeding 5,000 minimal salaries, i.e., 5 million drams and the party - an amount, not exceeding 60,000 minimal salaries, i.e., 60 million drams, whereas in 2007 the tariff for the paid air of the national and Yerevan TV companies for parties/blocs, running in elections, ranged 80,000-130,000 drams for one minute). In other words, the parties and majority candidates cannot fully use the promotional opportunities.

The Electoral Code was expanded to include a provision regulating the activities of print media during a pre-election promotion - clause 10 of Article 20. Here the notion of “equal terms” is not specified. Unlike the broadcast media, the print media do not use a public resource (a frequency and a channel). Thus, the requirement that they should ensure equality in editorial coverage is ungrounded. In the common world practice no restrictions are imposed on print media announcing their support for a certain party or a candidate. Consequently, it would have been more appropriate to legally stipulate the requirement of equal conditions (tariffs) only with regard to providing newspaper space for political advertising.

According to part 2 of Article 113, referring to pre-election promotion during elections to the National Assembly, the parties (party blocs) running in elections enjoy the rights, stipulated by Article 81 of the Electoral Code, i.e., the rights of candidates for the RA Presidency.

Some provisions of Article 81 are quoted below:

***“1. Paid and free pre-election promotion of candidates for the Presidency of the Republic on the air of public radio and television is made according to the procedure, established by the Central Election Commission.***

***(...)***

***3. Candidates for the Presidency of the Republic are entitled to use of free airtime of the public television with a total duration of maximum 60 minutes and the airtime of the public radio with a total duration of maximum 120 minutes.***

***4. Candidates for the Presidency of the Republic or, with their consent, the party or initiative group that nominated him are entitled to use paid airtime at the expense of the pre-election fund of the candidates - maximum 120 minutes on public television and maximum 180 minutes on public radio.”***

The resolution on the procedure for allocating air time by public TV and radio for pre-election promotion to parties/party bloc, running for seats at the RA National Assembly on May 12, 2007 by proportionate representation system was adopted by the RA CEC on April 8, 2007. This resolution defined also the succession of appearance, by days, of the parties on the air of public television and public radio, the daily duration of the paid and free airtime, as well as the hours at which the promotional materials should be broadcast. According to the resolution, the First Channel of the Public Television of Armenia had to ensure the broadcasting of the pre-election promotion all over Armenia, the Public Radio of Armenia - on frequencies 69.77 MHz, 1395 kHz and by the FM network of the republic. The public broadcasters were also to ensure the parallel broadcasting on the air of "Shirak" public TV and radio company. If the party did not use the airtime, allocated to it by the schedule, other time was not provided to it in return. Besides, the airtime, allocated to one party, could not be used by another party or its representative.

On December 22, 2006 amendments were introduced to clause 1 of Article 22 of the EC "Prohibition of influencing the free will of citizens", according to which:

***"Journalists, members of the editorial staffs of the public television and radio, other radio companies and TV companies, registered as candidates are prohibited from covering elections and hosting radio and TV programs."***

The need for such restrictions on a legislative level would not arise if, as noted above, the TV and radio companies of Armenia followed the clear-cut independent policy for covering elections (code of conduct) that would be stipulating that should a journalist be nominated as a candidate he suspends his professional activities for the period of pre-election promotion.

Other clauses of Article 22 define:

***"2. During the pre-election promotion the staff and the employees of the bodies of state administration and local self-government, as well as the personnel of the mass media, established by public bodies or by the bodies of local self-government, are prohibited from using their competence (rights) to influence the display of free will of citizens by creating unequal conditions between the candidates, displays of partiality. When being nominated as candidates these individuals use the mass media, established by the public bodies and bodies of local self-government following the procedure, stipulated by this Code."***

***3. When publishing the findings of the sociological research about the ratings of candidates and parties (party blocs), the citizens and organizations publishing a mass medium must mention the name of the organization that administered the survey, the timeframes of the research, the sample size and type, the method and the place of information collection, the exact definition of the question, the statistical error margin as well as the client and the funding source of research publication."***

***During the 7 days that precede the voting day, also until 20.00 on the voting day, it is prohibited to publish the findings of the sociological surveys on the ratings of the candidates and parties (party blocs)."***

In the course of elections of 2003 (similarly to almost all the preceding election campaigns) the coverage of the candidates (for presidency as well as for seats at the RA NA) due to the line of their work remained an issue of debate. Such coverage in the newscasts is considered a manifestation of indirect promotion. On May 19, 2005 the Election Code was amended by Article 22<sup>1</sup>, according to clause 3 of which: ***"It is prohibited to cover the activities of these candidates (holding political, discretionary positions, being state, civil servants, servants of local self-government - Ed. Note) in mass media, but for the cases provided for by the Constitution, official visits and receptions as well as measures, taken by them at times of calamities"***.

It is important to note that such definition has certain shortcomings, because, for example, any governmental event, any working visit or a meeting of a member of the Government, who is at the same time a registered candidate, can become an object of reporting, and hence the latter receives an advantage over the rivals. This is true also for the employees of other state bodies.

It makes sense to have a stricter definition of the EC provision, recording, for example, that the coverage of such events is made only by a brief textual report on the event, the essence of the resolutions made, the agreements reached (if any), with no visual representation and without specific names (unless the event was personified).

Article 23 of the EC is fully dealing with the voting day and the day before it. The first two clauses of the Article are also related to media:

***“1. On the voting day and the day before it, it is prohibited to influence the voters orally or in writing, through music or visual means, to collect signatures or to wage pre-election promotion in any other way in the building where the precinct center is or next to it as well as directly before its entrance.***

***2. It is prohibited to announce the exit poll findings until the end of the voting.”***

## PARTIES/BLOC THAT WERE RUNNING IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2007

On May 12, 2007, 22 parties and 1 party bloc took part in the elections to the RA National Assembly by proportionate representation system.

On May 19 the RA Central Election Commission announced the final results of voting at the election to the RA NA. The votes cast for parties/bloc were distributed as follows (*in percentage*):

	Party/Bloc	%
1.	Republican Party of Armenia	33.55
2.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party	14.97
3.	"Dashnaktsutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation	13.02
4.	"Orinats Yerkir" party	6.98
5.	"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party	5.93
6.	United Labour Party	4.34
7.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/ "National Unity" party	3.65
8.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party	3.44
9.	Popular Party	2.71
10.	"Dashink"/ "Alliance" party	2.41
11.	People's Party of Armenia	1.67
12.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic" party	1.63
13.	"Impeachment" bloc	1.28
14.	Communist Party of Armenia	0.64
15.	National Democratic Party	0.63
16.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party	0.61
17.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party	0.31
18.	Democratic Party of Armenia	0.27
19.	"Christian People Renaissance" party	0.25
20.	United Liberal National Party	0.20
21.	Marxist Party of Armenia	0.19
22.	Youth Party of Armenia	0.17
23.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party	0.07

The parties/bloc are briefly presented below.

### NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

The party was formed in 2001 after a split in the National Democratic Union - one of the main opposition forces in Armenia since 1991. Among the cornerstones of the political platform of the National Democratic Party is the strengthening of direct democracy institutes.

### "AZGAYIN HAMADZAYNUTIUN"/"NATIONAL ACCORD" PARTY

The party was formed in 2000 and has run in all national elections since. The party platform is based on achievement of national accord as the primary democratic value and the overcoming of the social polarization by wealth.

### "AZGAYIN MIABANUTIUN"/"NATIONAL UNITY" PARTY

The party was formed in 1997 around the figure of Artashes Geghamian, the former representative of the Soviet party elite, one of the most experienced politicians of the independent Armenia. Geghamian was a deputy of the RA parliament of all summons and together with its party he took part in all presidential and parliamentary elections since 1998. At the RA National Assembly of Armenia the party was represented in a bloc in 1999-2003 and in 2003-2007 as a separate faction. The cornerstone of the political platform of the party is the "Anti-Crisis Program".

## **“BARGAVACH HAYASTAN”/“PROSPEROUS ARMENIA” PARTY**

The party was formed in 2004; however, it stated itself as an influential political force in 2006, and as such, it was formed around the personality of a major businessman Gagik Tsarukian. Tsarukian back the RA President Robert Kocharian and enjoys the reciprocal support. Judging from the public appearances of the party representatives, its ideological basis and direction have not as yet been defined.

## **“DASHINK”/“ALLIANCE” PARTY**

The party was established in 2005. The founder of the party is the hero of Karabagh war, the former Minister of Defense of Mountainous Karabagh Samvel Babayan. After his conviction for attempted murder of MK President and early release he moved to Yerevan and took up politics in Armenia. “Dashink” takes part in the elections for the first time; the party platform is built on general principles of democracy and rule of law.

## **“ZHARANGUTIUN”/“HERITAGE” PARTY**

The party was established in 2002 and runs in parliamentary elections for the first time. The party leader is the first Minister of Foreign Affairs of independent Armenia Raffi Hovannisian. The party has announced its mission to be the creation of a free, strong and prosperous Armenia, basing on human and national values, the civilizational inheritance of the past.

## **POPULAR PARTY**

The party was established in 1995. It has gained its present shape over the past 4-5 years around the personality of the former successful Russian businessmen, and since 2002 - the owner of the Armenian “ALM” TV company Tigran Karapetian. The party leader calls himself a “centrist”, denying the affiliation of the Popular Party to both pro-governmental and opposition forces. While the ideological framework and the priorities of the party are not stressed, its foreign policy direction can be classed as pro-Russian.

## **“ZHOGHOVRDAVARAKAN UGHI”/“DEMOCRATIC WAY” PARTY**

The party was established in 2005. It engaged in active political activities shortly before the parliamentary elections of 2007. The party list included a number of well-known figures, representing various political forces. Due to this the pre-election platform of the “Democratic Way” is a certain compromise that proceeds from the priority of democracy values and the rule of law.

## **“IMPEACHMENT” BLOC**

The bloc was formed in 2007 by the Conservative Party and “Democratic Motherland” party on the basis of “Alternative” public movement. “Impeachment” bloc advocates the dismissal of the current leaders of Armenia, holding them and the representatives of the oligarchy responsible, a democratic formation of new power.

## **“DASHNAKTSUTIUN” ARMENIAN REVOLUTIONARY FEDERATION**

Traditional Armenian political party with a history of over a century, “Dashnaktsutiun” was in fact the ruling party during the First Armenian Republic (1918-1920). After the establishment of the Soviet rule in Armenia it functioned in exile. Subsequently to the restoration of independence in 1991 the party resumed the official political activities in the country. “Dashnaktsutiun” was in opposition to the ruling Armenian National Movement. In 1995-1998 the party was banned. In 1998 and 2003 supported Robert Kocharian at presidential elections and after the parliamentary elections of 2003 it joined the ruling coalition. The party holds a nationalist-socialist stand.

## **DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF ARMENIA**

The party was formed on the initiative of the last leader of the Armenian Communist Party of the Soviet Period Aram G. Sargsian in 1991 right after the August coup d’etat in Moscow and the subsequent self-dissolution of the Communist Party of Armenia. In 2003 the DPA enters “Justice” opposition bloc and faction of the parliament. The party advocates social-democratic stance.

## **YOUTH PARTY OF ARMENIA**

The party was formed in 1997. Since then it has marked its involvement in all election campaign in certain forms, stressing its loyalty to the authorities and advocating pro-Russian direction.

## **PEOPLE'S PARTY OF ARMENIA**

The party was formed in 1998 around the personality of the former First Secretary of the Communist Party of Armenia Karen Demirchian, the main rival of Robert Kocharian at the presidential elections of 1998. At the parliamentary elections of 1999 the PPA in a bloc with the Republican Party of Armenia gained the majority at the parliament and received a number of key posts at the Government. After the terrorist attack at the National Assembly on October 27, 1999, when Karen Demirchian was assassinated, the party was headed by his son Stepan. In 2003 he was the main rival of Robert Kocharian at the presidential elections, and PPA, having joined "Justice" bloc, became a part of the parliament opposition in 2003-2007. The platform issues of the party are socially inclined, and their foreign policy priorities are not quite permanent: at various stages it was classed as pro-Russian and then pro-Western.

## **COMMUNIST PARTY OF ARMENIA**

The party considers itself to be the successor of the Communist Party of the USSR in Armenia. It has not been represented in the Parliament since 1999. The party advocates the restoration of the USSR in some form and the socialist system in economy.

## **REPUBLICAN PARTY OF ARMENIA**

The party was formed in 1991 on the basis of "Independence Army" (the association of military rapparees). During the first years of its existence the party stayed in opposition; however, in 1995 it entered "Republic" bloc with the ruling "Armenian National Movement" party that won the parliamentary elections. During the last 8 years, despite the assassination of Prime Minister Vazgen Sargsian and some other RPA leaders on October 27, 1999, during a terrorist attack on the National Assembly, the party remains ruling, possessing most seats at the Parliament and posts in the government. The party adheres to conservative stance.

## **MARXIST PARTY OF ARMENIA**

The party was formed in 1997 around the personality of David Hakobian, commonly seen as an eccentric politician. The party leader sees the Marxism to be a form to be filled by national content.

## **"HANRAPETUTIUN"/"REPUBLIC" PARTY**

The party was formed in 2001 by former members of Republican Party of Armenia who disagreed with RPA supporting President Robert Kocharian. The party leader Aram Z. Sargsian headed the Armenian Government after his brother, Prime Minister Vazgen Sargsian was assassinated during the terrorist attack on the National Assembly on October 27, 1999. In 2000 he was dismissed from the position of Prime Minister by Robert Kocharian. After the elections of 2003 "Republic" entered the parliament within the opposition "Justice" bloc. It belongs to radical opposition wing and supports the dramatic change in the foreign policy direction, favoring the West.

## **UNITED LABOUR PARTY**

The party was established in 2002. It went out to a broader political arena shortly before the parliamentary elections of 2003. At these elections it overcame the 5% barrier and was represented at the National Assembly by a faction. In 2006 after one of the parties left the ruling coalition, the United Labor Party took its place and got, in particular, one ministerial post. The party platform is centered on the encouragement of creative labour of people.

## **UNITED LIBERAL NATIONAL PARTY**

The party was established directly before the parliamentary elections of 2007 by a group of alumni of foreign educational programs. It proposes radical measures to liberalize all spheres in Armenia.

## **“NOR ZHAMANAKNER”/ “NEW TIMES” PARTY**

The party was formed in 2004 around the figure of Aram Karapetian, involved in the Russian political circles for a long time. In Armenia he became known to public at large before presidential elections of 2003, in which he was running as a candidate and showed the fourth result. “New Times” make an accent on control of corruption and strengthening the Russian vector in foreign policy.

## **SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC HNCHAK (“THE BELL”) PARTY**

This is the oldest traditional Armenian party. During the Soviet rule the party functioned in exile. After the restoration of independence the party re-created its structures in Armenia. In 1995-1999 it was a part of “Republic” ruling bloc at the National Assembly of Armenia. The party adheres to its traditional mixture of social-democratic and nationalist ideas.

## **“CHRISTIAN PEOPLE RENAISSANCE” PARTY**

The party was established in 2005 and went out into the political arena shortly before the elections. The party advocates strengthening of democracy and rule of law basing on Christian values.

## **“ORINATS YERKIR” (“COUNTRY OF LEGALITY”) PARTY**

The party was formed in 1998, its leader Arthur Baghdasarian was loyal to Governments of both the first RA President Levon Ter-Petrosian and of Robert Kocharian who came to replace him. After the parliamentary elections of 2003 the party joined the ruling coalition, getting, among other positions, that of National Assembly Speaker. However, in 2006 the party left the coalition and since that time has been operating in the opposition. Lately the party has shown more focus on liberal values and has spoken in favor of Armenia's integration into Euro-Atlantic community.



# DATA, RESEARCH DESIGN, AND METHODOLOGY OF MONITORING THE ARMENIAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF ELECTIONS TO RA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY 2007

The monitoring of Armenian media coverage of parliamentary elections 2007 was administered in two stages: **the first stage** covered the period of February 1-March 31, 2007 (ahead of pre-election promotion); **second stage** - the period of April 8-May 10 (the pre-election promotion period).

**AT THE FIRST STAGE (FEBRUARY-MARCH 2007)** the study was implemented by Yerevan Press Club with the support of the Open Society Institute Network Media Program.

**The monitoring objectives were** to define and determine through analyzing quantitative data:

- the level of attention of the TV channels of Armenia to the upcoming elections to RA National Assembly in 2007;
- how adequate the broadcast media of Armenia were in informing the voters about the political parties/their leaders/representatives, ensured their access to air to express their views and opinions.

**Monitoring period:** February 1 - March 31, 2007.

**The monitoring object were 7 Armenian TV channels:**

4 national channels - the First Channel of the Public Television of Armenia, "ALM", "Armenia", Second Armenian TV Channel;

3 Yerevan channels - "Yerkir Media", "Kentron", "Shant".

**The monitoring subject were:** all programs aired at the evening prime time (18.00-24.00) of the TV channels listed above that contained references to parties (blocs)/their leaders/representatives.

**Monitoring Group:**

Project Director and Analyst - Boris Navasardian

Coordinator - Elina Poghosbekian

Monitors - Armineh Sukiasian, Seda Shiganian, Gohar Hovsepien, Satenik Dabaghian, Astghik Hovhannisian, Irina Hakobian, Elen Meliksetian.

**AT THE SECOND STAGE (APRIL-MAY 2007)** the study was implemented by "TEAM" Research Center with the financial support of Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Armenia and with the resource and methodology support of Yerevan Press Club. Assistance in its implementation was provided by Internews Armenia and "Asparez" Journalist's Club of Gyumri.

**The monitoring objectives were** to define and determine through analyzing quantitative data:

- how free and impartial the Armenian broadcast and print media were in informing the voters of the parties/blocs running in elections to the RA National Assembly by proportionate representation system;
- to what extent the media legislative framework and the state structures assist the performance by media (primarily, the public/official ones) of their mission to ensure free, fair and transparent elections;
- how compliant the media were with the legislative provisions, regulating the coverage of the official promotion campaign;

**Monitoring period:** April 8 - May 10, 2007.

**The monitoring object are 18 broadcast and print media of Armenia:**

4 national TV companies - First Channel of the Public Television of Armenia, "ALM", "Armenia", Second Armenian TV Channel;

6 TV companies of Yerevan - "AR", "ArmNews", "Yerkir Media", TV 5, "Kentron", "Shant";

3 TV companies of Gyumri (Shirak region) - "Shirak" public TV channel, "GALA", "Tsayg" (28th UHF);

1 national radio company - Public Radio of Armenia;

4 national newspapers - the official "Hayastani Hanrapetutiun" and "Respublika Armenia", private "Aravot" and "Haikakan Zhamanak".

**The monitoring subject were:** all programs aired at the evening prime time (18.00-24.00) of the TV channels listed above (except "Shirak" TV channel<sup>1</sup> - 16.00-20.00), and all the publications of the newspapers listed above<sup>2</sup>, that contained references to parties/bloc, running in elections by proportionate representation system; as well as airtime (18.00-24.00, for PTA First Channel<sup>3</sup> - since 17.15 and for "Shirak" - 16.00-20.00) and newspaper space, allocated for pre-election promotion (political advertising) of party/bloc.

### **Monitoring Group:**

Project Director - Avet Demurian

Analyst - Boris Navasardian

Coordinator - Elina Poghosbekian

Monitors - Armineh Sukiasian, Seda Shiganian, Gohar Hovsepian, Satenik Dabaghian, Astghik Hovhannisian, Irina Hakobian, Elen Meliksetian, Lilit Kalantarian, Zarineh Safarian, Hasmik Sedrakian, Susanna Melikian, Alvard Nazarian, Nadezhda Hakobian, Asya Barseghian, Anahit Margarian.

*Below the monitoring methodology for the two stages is presented.*

## **GUIDELINES FOR MONITORING 7 TV CHANNELS OF ARMENIA AHEAD OF PRE-ELECTION PROMOTION (FEBRUARY-MARCH, 2007)**

### **I. MONITORING METHODOLOGY**

1. Monitors, on a daily basis, record the duration of the airtime studied (**since 18.00 till 24.00**). The programs that started but did not end before 18.00 are not studied: the monitoring starts after the end of the program. But if during this program, in pauses, political advertising slots are aired, these are monitored. The programs that started but did not end by 24.00 are studied in full, until their end. But if political advertising slots are aired during this program, in pauses, only those that started before 24.00 are monitored.

2. The main unit of the study is the **TV piece**.

***The following was regarded as a TV piece:***

The airtime unit, distinct in its theme, composition and design, i.e.:

- a. a separate story in the newscast;
- b. a separate communication, presented by the program host;

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<sup>1</sup> Since "Shirak" (a part of the structure of the Public TV and Radio Company of Armenia) broadcasts for 4 hours daily, this channel is monitored in full - from 16.00 till 20.00.

<sup>2</sup> The newspapers were studied in full, except special supplements.

<sup>3</sup> Since the First Channel of the Public Television of Armenia, in accordance with the resolution of the RA CEC of April 8 2007, aired the pre-election promotion of parties/blocs from 17.15 till 21.00, the political advertising on this channel was monitored from 17.15.

- c. a part (section, story) of the program, touching on different issues/problems, made distinct by theme, composition and design (with a bloom, a jingle, etc.)
- d. introductory announcements of the TV pieces were viewed as a part of the story they referred to;
- e. the text of the host introducing the TV piece (report, etc.), was viewed as a part of this piece (report, etc.)

### 3. Count of the number of references or TV pieces on parties (blocs)/their leaders/representatives:

Monitors record **either a brief reference** to the party/its leaders/representatives **or the whole TV piece, measuring the airtime duration**, allocated to the party/its leaders/representatives to express their views, opinions, as well as the judgments, narrations about it made by other persons.

If the leaders(s)/representative(s) of the party appears in the line of his non-party position, profession, work, etc., and his party affiliation is not emphasized, the reference/TV pieces with the airtime duration is not recorded.

**a. A reference** is recorded in the case when in the TV piece the party/its leaders/representatives are only named or only a statement of its action, speech, address is made, without contextual details.

This category is measured in **units**.

In every one TV piece only one reference to each party/its leaders/representatives is made.

A reference is also considered to be any appearance of the party leaders/representatives in a TV shot. If this appearance is a part of a piece, where the party/its leaders/representatives are also verbally mentioned, this does not count as an additional reference. If the appearance of leaders/representatives in a shot occurs in a TV piece, where no verbal mentioning of the leader or the party is made, it is considered a separate reference.

**b. TV piece with measuring the duration of airtime** is recorded in the case when the piece lists the actions, statements, addresses of the party/its leaders/representatives or other persons about it in detail.

This category is measured **in units** (TV piece) and **seconds** (airtime).

The count of the number of TV pieces and the measurement of airtime, allocated to party/its leaders/representatives to express their stances, opinions, as well as judgments, narrations made about the party by other persons is made by the following principle:

1) if the TV piece is fully dealing with this or that party/its leaders/representatives, it and its whole airtime is recorded by monitors as belonging to that party.

2) if the parties/their leaders/ representatives are dealt with in a part of TV piece, the monitors record the TV piece and the part of the airtime dealing with the party as belonging to it.

3) if the TV piece, fully dealing with party/its leaders/representative conventionally named X quotes the statements of other party/its leaders/representatives (conventionally called Y), other than referring to party X, or the judgments, narrations of other persons about Y are presented, **with no comparison with X**, the piece is classed by the monitors as referring to both X and Y; Y receives the airtime of this part of the TV piece.

4) if the TV piece, fully dealing with party X, quotes its words about another party, Y, or the statements of Y about X are quoted, or judgments, narrations of other persons about Y **in comparison with X** are presented, the piece and **50%** of airtime is classed by the monitor to belong to X and Y each.

### 4. The count of the number and volume of the advertising slots/announcements/materials about the parties/blocs at the evening prime time:

At the evening prime time (18.00-24.00) of the TV channels **the number (in units)** and **the airtime duration (in seconds)** of the advertising slots/announcements/materials about the party/its leader/representatives.

## 5. Recording the participants of discussion programs:

At the evening prime time (18.00-24.00) of the TV channel studied by the participants of discussion programs (interviews, “guest in studio”, “talk show”) are listed by monitors separately, with the names of the programs, the names of the invitees and their positions specified.

## II. PARTIES, INCLUDED IN THE MONITORING LIST

The list of the parties monitored differed by the time of monitoring. In February it was made of 34 parties, playing the most active role in the political life of the country. In March only the 28 parties/bloc that officially announced their involvement in the upcoming parliamentary elections were monitored (the list was made by the electoral list of parties/blocs nominated as presented by the CEC).

The lists of parties/blocs monitored in February and March are presented below.

### PARTIES, INCLUDED IN MONITORING LIST IN FEBRUARY 2007\*

1.	“Azgayin Anvtangutiun”/ “National Security” party
2.	“National Democratic Alliance” party
3.	National Democratic Party
4.	“National Democratic Union” party
5.	“Azgayin Inknoroshum”/“National Self-Determination Union” party
6.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/ “National Accord” party
7.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/ “National Unity” party
8.	“Arzhanapativ Apaga”/ “Dignified Future” party
9.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party
10.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party
11.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party
12.	Popular Party
13.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/ “Democratic Way” party
14.	“Hay Arineri Bruntsk”/“Fist of Armenian Aryans” party
15.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation
16.	Armenian National Movement
17.	Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia
18.	Progressive Party of Armenia
19.	Democratic Party of Armenia
20.	“Democratic Liberal Union of Armenia” party
21.	People’s Party of Armenia
22.	Communist Party of Armenia
23.	Republican Party of Armenia
24.	Marxist Party of Armenia
25.	United Communist Party of Armenia
26.	Ramkavar-Azatakan Party of Armenia
27.	“Christian-Democratic Union of Armenia” party
28.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party
29.	“Hzor Hairenik”/“Strong Motherland” party
30.	United Labour Party
31.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party
32.	“Constitutional Right Union” party
33.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party
34.	“Orinats Yerkir” party

\*The parties are listed in Armenian alphabetic order.

## PARTIES, INCLUDED IN MONITORING LIST IN MARCH 2007

1.	National Democratic Party
2.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/ "National Accord" party
3.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/ "National Unity" party
4.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party
5.	"Dashink"/"Alliance" party
6.	"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party
7.	Popular Party
8.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/ "Democratic Way" party
9.	"Impeachment" bloc**
10.	"Dashnaksutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation
11.	Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*
12.	Progressive Party of Armenia
13.	Progressive United Communist Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **
14.	Democratic Party of Armenia
15.	Youth Party of Armenia**
16.	People's Party of Armenia
17.	Communist Party of Armenia
18.	Republican Party of Armenia
19.	Marxist Party of Armenia
20.	Armenian National Movement
21.	"Hayots Hairenik" party ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **
22.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic " party
23.	United Labour Party
24.	United Liberal National Party**
25.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party
26.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party
27.	"Christian People Renaissance" party**
28.	"Orinats Yerkir" party

*\*These parties did not submit registration documents to CEC within the timeframes stipulated (before March 28), which is why their coverage was monitored till March 27.*

*\*\*These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007.*

### III. MONITORING DESIGN

- a. The monitors count and record all the necessary data by each TV channel in coding sheets on a daily basis.
- b. The findings are summarized and presented to the coordinator every month, i.e., **March 2** and **April 2**.
- c. The findings for the whole monitoring period are summarized.

## GUIDELINES FOR MONITORING THE ARMENIAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS OF 2007 (APRIL-MAY, 2007)

### I. MONITORING METHODOLOGY

1. The main unit of the study is the **TV**, **radio piece** and **newspaper publication**.

***The following was understood to be a TV, radio piece:***

The airtime unit, distinct in its theme, composition and design, i.e.:

- a. a separate story in the newscast;
- b. a separate communication, presented by the program host;
- c. a part (section, story) of the program, touching on different issues/problems, made distinct by theme, composition and design (with a bloom, a jingle, etc. )

- d. introductory announcements of the TV, radio pieces were viewed as a part of the story they referred to;
- e. the text of the host introducing the TV, radio piece (report, etc.), was viewed as a part of this piece (report, etc.).

***The following was understood to be a newspaper publication:***

The newspaper text unit, distinct in its theme, composition and design, i.e.:

- a. a separate article, news report, interview, etc;
- b. announcements of publications are viewed to be a part of the publication they refer to;
- c. the headline/subheadline, the lead (i.e., the text after the headline/subheadline that introduces the publication and bears the main message of the article) are considered to be a part of the story they refer to;
- d. editorial comment on a certain publication, distinguished by words "Editor's note", "Editorial comment", etc. is considered to be a separate publication;
- e. photograph (pictures, cartoons, collages, illustrations, charts, etc.) that is not a part of a newspaper publication but contains a headline or a text or has a message is considered as a separate material. If the photograph accompanies the newspaper publication, it is considered to be part of the material it refers to.

2. Monitors, on a daily basis, record the duration of the airtime studied (**since 18.00 till 24.00**). The programs that started but did not end before 18.00 are not studied: the monitoring starts after the end of the program. But if during this program, in pauses, political advertising slots are aired, these are monitored. The programs that started but did not end by 24.00 are studied in full, until their end. But if political advertising slots are aired during this program, in pauses, only those that started before 24.00 are monitored.

**3. Count of the number and nature of references to party/bloc:**

A. Monitors record and count **references** to party/bloc or its leaders (the first three in the election lists) at the evening prime time (**18.00-24.00**, for "Shirak" - **16.00-20.00**) of broadcast media and in print media (**in full**).

B. Apart from recording the total number of references the number of **positive (+)**, **negative (-)** and **neutral (0)** references to party/bloc or its leaders. The connotational (positive, negative) references are understood to be those, contained in pieces/publications that leave a definitely positive or negative impression of the party/bloc or its leaders/representatives. Where the context is not that definite, the reference is recorded as neutral. All the doubts of the monitor are also interpreted as recording the reference as neutral.

In each TV and radio piece only one reference and only one connotation is recorded for each party/bloc, its leaders.

The measurement of these categories is made **in units**.

A reference is also considered to be any appearance of the party leaders (the first three in the party list) in a TV shot or a photograph/graphics which is not a part of a piece/publication. If this appearance is a part of a piece, where the party/bloc, its leaders are also mentioned, this does not count as an additional reference.

**4. Measuring the volume of pieces on party/bloc, its leaders:**

The monitors record and measure the **volume of pieces**, i.e., **airtime/newspaper space** (in **seconds** and **sq. cm**), allocated to parties/bloc or their leaders, representatives to express their views, opinions, as well as for judgments, narrations about them by other persons in broadcast (**18.00- 24.00**, for "Shirak" - **16.00-20.00**) and print (**in full**) media.

The measurement of airtime/newspaper space, allocated to party/bloc or its leaders to express their stances, opinions, as well as judgments, narrations made about the party by other persons is made by the following principle:

- 1) if the TV, radio, newspaper piece is fully dealing with this or that party/bloc, its leaders, the whole airtime/newspaper space is recorded by monitors as belonging to that party.
- 2) if the party/bloc, its leaders are dealt with in a part of piece, the monitors record only the part of the airtime/newspaper space dealing with the party as belonging to it.
- 3) if the piece, fully dealing with party/bloc, its leaders, conventionally named X, quotes the statements of other party/its leaders/representatives (conventionally called Y), other than referring to party X, or the judgments, narrations of other persons about Y are presented, **with no comparison with X**, both X and Y receive the airtime/newspaper space of this part of the piece.
- 4) if the piece, fully dealing with party X, quotes its words about another party, Y, or the statements of Y about X are quoted, or judgments, narrations of other persons about Y **in comparison with X** are presented, the piece and **50%** of airtime/newspaper space is classed by the monitor to belong to X and Y each.

The references, airtime/newspaper space, dealing with the leaders of parties/bloc (the first three in the election list) are recorded irrespectively of the capacity that these persons appear in. In the cases with other representatives of parties/bloc the airtime/newspaper space are only recorded when their party affiliation is stressed in material/publication.

#### **5. Measurement of the pre-election promotion (political advertising) volume, allocated to party/bloc in broadcast and print media:**

The monitors record and measure **the volume** of materials, i.e., **the airtime/newspaper space** (in **seconds** and **sq.cm**), allocated to party/bloc or its leader for pre-election promotion in broadcast (**18.00-24.00, for PTA First Channel - from 17.15 and for "Shirak" - 16.00-20.00**) and print (**in full**) media and distinguished in the newspapers as advertising and marked as "political advertising" or "pre-election promotion program" on TV and radio channels. The volumes of paid and free advertising is recorded separately.

***The political advertising slot that started but did not end by 18.00 is not subject to monitoring. The political advertising slot that started but did not end by 24.00 is considered in full, until its end.***

#### **6. Recording the coverage of electoral violations:**

A separate list is maintained by monitors for recording **the coverage of electoral violation facts in the newscasts of the given TV, radio channel (18.00- 24.00, for "Shirak" - 16.00-20.00)**.

#### **7. Recording the participants of discussion programs:**

By separate list the monitors record the participants of the participants of discussion programs (interviews, "guest in studio", "talk show") at TV, radio channels studied, specifying the channel, the names of the programs, the names of the invitees and their positions (**18.00- 24.00, for "Shirak" - 16.00-20.00**).

## **II. PARTIES, INCLUDED IN MONITORING LIST**

The monitoring object were 24 parties and 1 party bloc, registered by CEC for running in elections to the RA NA by proportionate representation system.

On April 29 the Armenian National Movement and on May 2 the Progressive Party of Armenia officially stopped their participation in the election campaign. On May 2 the campaign was left also by Garik Martirosian, the second in the party list of the United Liberal National Party; the second line was correspondingly taken by David Atanesian and the third - by Samson Hakobian.

Thus, since April 30 the monitoring objects were 24 parties/bloc, and from May 3 - 23 parties/bloc, including the modified trio of the leaders of United Liberal National Party.

## LIST OF PARTIES/BLOC, RUNNING IN ELECTIONS TO THE RA NA BY PROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION SYSTEM

1.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian
2.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian
3.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/"National Unity" party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian
4.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian
5.	"Dashink"/"Alliance" party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian
6.	"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan
7.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian
8.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian
9.	"Impeachment" bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan
10.	"Dashnaktsutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian
11.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )
12.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian
13.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian
14.	People's Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian
15.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian
16.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian
17.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian
18.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )
19.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic " party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Sureh Abrahamian
20.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian
21.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian
22.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian
23.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian
24.	"Christian People Renaissance" party: Mkrtich (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian
25.	"Orinats Yerkir" party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian

### III. MONITORING DESIGN

- a. The monitors count and record all the necessary data by each medium in coding sheets on a daily basis.
- b. The findings are summarized and presented to the coordinator for the following periods: **April 8-15; April 16-23; April 24 - May 5; May 6-10.**
- c. The findings for the whole monitoring period (**April 8 - May 10**) are summarized by each medium and are presented to the coordinator on **May 12.**



## BRIEF BACKGROUND OF THE MEDIA STUDIED

### Broadcast Media

**PUBLIC TELEVISION OF ARMENIA (PTA):** public TV company, founded in 2001. The governing body is the Council of Public TV and Radio Company. The object of the study was the PTA First Channel. The First Channel is on air 19.5 hours on the territory of Armenia and 24 hours in Yerevan daily.

**"ALM":** private TV company, founded in 2000 by "ALM-Holding" LLC. The TV company is on air 24 hours a day.

**"ARMENIA":** private TV company, founded in 1998 by Cafesjian Family Foundation and Sargsian Family Foundation. The TV company is on air 24 hours a day.

**SECOND ARMENIAN TV CHANNEL (SECOND CHANNEL):** private TV company, founded in 1998 by physical persons. The TV company is on air 18.5 hours a day.

**"AR":** private TV company, founded in 1996 by "AR' TV Company" LLC. The TV company is on air 24 hours a day.

**"ARMNEWS":** private TV company, founded in 2002 by "ArmNews" CJSC. A news channel, on air 24 hours a day, re-broadcasting also programs of EuroNews.

**"YERKIR MEDIA":** private TV company, founded in 2004 by "Husaber" CJSC. The TV company is on air 24 hours a day.

**"KENTRON":** private TV company, founded in 2002 by "SHARM" CJSC. The TV company is on air 19 hours a day.

**TV 5:** private TV company, founded in 2000 by "TV 5" CJSC. The TV company is on air 24 hours a day.

**"SHANT":** private TV company, founded in 1994 by "Shant" LLC. The TV company is on air 19 hours a day.

**"SHIRAK":** public TV company, founded in 1991. The governing body is the Council of Public TV and Radio Company. The TV company is on air 4 hours a day.

**"TSAYG":** private TV company, founded in 1991 by physical persons. The TV company is on air 10-12 hours a day.

**"GALA":** private TV company, founded in 2005 by "CHAP" LLC. The TV company is on air 13-18 hours a day.

**PUBLIC RADIO OF ARMENIA:** public radio company, founded in 2001. The governing body is the Council of Public TV and Radio Company. The radio company is on air 24 hours a day.

### Print Media

**"HAYASTANI HANRAPETUTIUN":** daily newspaper, published five times a week and founded in 1990 by "Hanrapetutiun" CJSC. The standard volume is 8/A2 pp., the claimed circulation is 6,000 copies.

**"RESPUBLIKA ARMENIA":** Russian-language newspaper published twice a week and founded in 1990 by "Hayastani Hanrapetutiun-Respublika Armenia" CJSC. The standard volume is 8/A3 pp., the claimed circulation is 1,500 copies.

**"ARAVOT":** daily newspaper, published five times a day and founded in 1994 by "Aravot' daily" LLC. The standard volume is 8/A3 pp., the claimed circulation is 4,400 copies.

**"HAIKAKAN ZHAMANAK":** daily newspaper, published five times a day and founded in 1997 by "Dareskizb" LLC. The standard volume is 8/A3 pp., the claimed circulation is 5,250-6,050 copies.

# REPORT ON MONITORING THE ARMENIAN MEDIA COVERAGE OF PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS OF 2007

## GENERAL OVERVIEW

The analysis of a political situation in Armenia and media activities in 2006-2007 signifies that the election campaign in Armenia unofficially set off almost a year before the ballot day. It is at that time when the circle of the main rivals for parliamentary elections 2007 started gaining shape, along with the strategy of a number of political forces and the nature of their relations with media. At the same time the whole election campaign can be conventionally divided into four periods, each of them having its own specifics in terms of media behavior.

**The first period** can be considered to be the whole second half of 2006. It was, in particular, characterized by the active charity activities of a number of party leaders, broadly covered by the TV channels. This is primarily true for "Prosperous Armenia" party and the Popular Party. The other distinguishing feature of 2006 and, particularly, its second half was the strictly dosed coverage of a number of opposition parties and politicians by the TV channels. Appropriate discontent with this both to the address of the television in general, and certain TV channels, was voiced, specifically, by parties "Orinats Yerkir", "Republic", "Heritage", "National Unity", Armenian National Movement, People's Party of Armenia, National Democratic Alliance and their leaders. Five of seven parties noted were at that time in this or that form represented at the National Assembly of Armenia.

**The second conventional period** covers the start of 2007 till the third decade of March. Judging from the findings of the monitoring for the period, the TV air was no longer blocked for most of opposition parties. Also, quite board coverage was made of "Orinats Yerkir", People's Party of Armenia, National Democratic Alliance, Armenian National Movement, "National Unity". At the same time, the findings allow making an inference about a certain discrimination made by seven TV channels studied in February-March (PTA First Channel, the Second Armenian TV Channel, "ALM", "Armenia", "Shant", "Yerkir Media", "Kentron") with regard to three political parties out of the opposition camp: "Republic", "New Times" and "Heritage".

**The third period** is made of the over two weeks, preceding the pre-election promotion stipulated by the law (launched on April 8). In late March - early April, despite the fact that the registration of parties for running in elections was not over yet and they were not enjoying the access to air, guaranteed by the RA Electoral Code, the obvious discrimination of certain parties was not there any more. The opposition, including the three parties out of TV channel attention in the previous period, now started to get more coverage in the news; its leaders were invited for interviews. And if some parties did not receive the attention of broadcast media, this was due to their passive campaigning.

At the same time the comparison of monitoring results with the pre-election processes lead to assume that both before and after the "warming" towards the opposition parties a coordinated policy was applied, and the weakening of their information isolation occurred, in particular, as the attention of international community to elections in Armenia increased. Thus, starting from February 2007 the monitoring of the media coverage of political parties started, and starting from the third decade of March the work of the OSCE/ODIHR long-term observation mission commenced.

Finally, **the fourth period** was classed by the authors of this report to be the pre-election promotion. This period was characterized by an emphasized aspiration of most media studied to act in accordance with the letter of the law. All political parties, running in elections, to this or that degree had a chance present their platforms and stances on the issues of the day to the voters. At the same time during this period, too, a significant disproportion in the TV channel attention to political forces was due to both objective factors (the real political weight of the party, the competence of its leaders and their readiness to have contacts with media on a broad array of issues, availability of financial resources and activeness in holding pre-election events) and to subjective circumstances: the proximity of a certain political force to power, the availability of influence levers on certain TV channels and their owners.

Below is a more detailed information on the two stages of monitoring, implemented by Yerevan Press Club and "TEAM" Research Center. The first stage includes mostly the period between the official announcement of elections and the start of pre-election promotion (February-March 2007); second - the period of pre-election promotion (April 8 - May 10, 2007).

## **MEDIA IN FEBRUARY-MARCH 2007**

Since the RA legislation does not precisely regulate the political promotion and the editorial coverage of the party activities outside the official promotional campaign (for the elections to the RA National Assembly in 2007- since April 8 till May 10), the monitoring findings presented at that stage did not aim to reveal the law infringements.

The purpose of the study was to define: 1) how comprehensive the information provided to the TV audience about the political spectrum and the activities of parties ahead of elections is; 2) whether equal opportunities are ensured for all parties to present their political views and platforms.

"Kentron" and "Yerkir Media" TV channels were the most active in covering the pre-electing political situation: they gave most airtime to different parties, were distinguished for the biggest number of current affairs programs and diversity of politicians, public actors interviewed. The least interest to politics out of the seven TV channels studied was demonstrated by "Armenia": since early 2007 it gave up a whole number of current affairs programs, also of "guest in studio" type. Throughout all the period studied the TV channel only made an exception for the RA Minister of Defense and the Chairman of the Council of Republican Party of Armenia Serge Sargsian, whose half-an-hour interview was aired on February 4.

"ALM" TV channel holds a particular position here, because, on the one hand, it gave the most airtime to politics, but on the other, this was achieved by exceptional attention to the activities and the stance of the TV company owner Tigran Karapetian, also the head of the Popular Party. The Popular Party received over 80% of "ALM" political air.

Owing to the attention by this TV channel the Popular Party has a huge advantage over the remaining parties in terms of the airtime allocated to it and its leader on all 7 TV channels (154,812 sec.). At the same time around 98% of the aggregate airtime given to the Popular Party was accounted for by "ALM". Besides, the Popular Party used the air of this channel for a number of announcements (23,022 sec.).

Among the leaders in terms of attention received from 7 TV channels were Republican Party of Armenia (78,639 sec.), "Prosperous Armenia" party (69,679 sec.), "Dashnaktsutiun" party (61,434 sec.). These are the two parties, making up the basis of the ruling coalition as well as the party ("Prosperous Armenia") that started campaigning earlier than others and most actively, and, judging by the composition of its governing body, also quite close to the authorities. Rather distanced from them - for a party, represented by a parliament faction and membering in the ruling coalition - was the United Labor Party (6,859 sec.). However, this party, to a significant extent, compensated these modest figures by the active use of paid air on "ALM" TV channel (this figure being over 4 times as much as the editorial coverage of the party on 7 TV channels).

The First Channel of the Public Television of Armenia, having a particular mission in accordance with its status, distributed the attention to the parties mostly in close correspondence with their current position in the political arena (in particular, with their representation in the parliament). There is, however, one exception to this rule that will be discussed below. On PTA First Channel the leaders were the Republican Party of Armenia (11,750 sec.), "Dashnaktsutiun" party (5,920 sec.), "National Unity" party (5,099 sec.), "Orinats Yerkir" party (4,778 sec.), People's Party of Armenia (4,143 sec.). The seventh place was taken by the United Labour Party (2,755 sec.). Somewhat unexpectedly between the United Labor Party and the first five the Marxist Party of Armenia (3,058 sec.) nested in. The party is not among the "political heavyweights", but the ranking was due to the participation of the Party leader, David Hakobian in "Two Stars" entertaining TV show.

The Republican Party of Armenia was ahead of everyone else also in terms of frequency of appearance in the TV pieces of all seven TV channels studied: 656 references versus 457 of "Dashnaktsutiun", 252 of "Prosperous Armenia" and 244 of "Orinats Yerkir". RPA was leading not only in terms of aggregate indicators but also in terms of airtime at each of four out of seven TV channels - besides the PTA First

Channel, on the Second Armenian TV Channel, "Armenia" and "Shant". At the former three of these RPA had an overwhelming advantage, which to a certain extent was due to the reporting of the decease of the RA Prime Minister Andranik Margarian on March 25, 2007, and the media focus at his personality, the party he headed and the morning ceremonies, in which the RPA and its representatives naturally took the most active part.

Three other channels, as the findings of the monitoring show, had distinct party preferences. The greatest interest on "ALM" was displayed, as noted above, towards the Popular Party, on "Kentron" - "Prosperous Armenia" party, on "Yerkir-Media" - "Dashnaktsutiun" party. The difference of "ALM" from other TV channels was made emphatic not only by the figures of the People's Party, but also the second place in March of the Youth Party of Armenia, which, similarly to the Marxist Party, is not among the "political heavyweights" (7,386 sec.). Almost 98% of aggregate airtime and 60% of all TV pieces, dealing with this Party during one month were accounted for by "ALM".

Considering the findings of February-March 2007, the claims of the most oppositional parties over the TV air being closed for them did no longer have sufficient grounds. Immediately after the leading four (in terms of aggregate TV air allocated on 7 TV channels) the opposition parties come - People's Party of Armenia (25,104 sec.), "Orinats Yerkir" (24,396 sec.), Armenian National Movement (17,159 sec.), "National Unity" (14,344 sec.). By the findings of February, among the leaders of the political TV air was also the "Constitutional Right" Union (10,739 sec.) - although the CRU result was not so much a sign of interest to the party as such, but rather outcome of an interparty scandal reaching its peak in February and becoming the main reason for the party's not involvement in elections (having failed to submit an application to the Central Electoral Commission, CRU stopped being monitored in March).

At the same time, the findings for February and most of March give reason to speak about a certain discrimination of all the TV channels studied against three opposition political parties: "Republic", "Heritage" and "New Times". The first of these parties was one of the main founders of "Ardarutiun", the biggest opposition bloc and parliament faction, it includes a number of former senior officials of the country. The second is headed by the first Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, whose political rating, according to the Gallup polls of 2006, is quite high. The leader of the third was a presidential candidate at elections of 2003, becoming the fourth in terms of the votes gained. All these three parties during the recent years remained acting political structures. In other words, there was every reason to pay attention to them before elections.

However, 7 channels studied (this fully refers to the PTA First Channel, too) displayed either zero or little interest to these three parties during the period noted. Their activities were either not covered at all, or were seldom and minimally referred to; their events, press conferences were little reported on, the representatives of these parties were never interviewed. The attitude to them started changing only in the third decade of March, after their problem was publicly voiced, also through publishing the interim results of media monitoring, as well as due to the start of the OSCE/ODIHR long-term observation mission.

The paid air of TV companies in February-March, besides the United Labour Party (as noted above, it used the air of "ALM"), was also used by "Dashink" party (14,593 sec. on "Yerkir Media"). The United Labor Party, thus, turned out to be the only party that consistently, month in and month out, resorted to this open form of political promotion in media. In case of "Dashink" this was a one-time initiative - the film demonstration on the party leader Samvel Babayan. The other parties that have appropriate financial and political opportunities apparently preferred to use concealed methods of using TV air to advance their interests before the pre-election promotion.

*(The quantitative findings of the media monitoring in February-March 2007 are reflected in "Tables and Charts" section.)*

## **MEDIA DURING THE PRE-ELECTION PROMOTION (APRIL 8 - MAY 10, 2007)**

During the "pre-election promotion" period, as defined by the RA legislation, the monitoring group recorded a higher level of political plurality, than during the preceding months. Most parties, running in elections and displaying relevant activeness in promotion campaign, received an opportunity to present their platforms, approaches, opinions to the public. None of the parties encountered any obstacles in using the paid and free airtime, allocated by the law on the public radio and television.

The period of the pre-election promotion can be divided into two almost equal halves. The first was characterized by the aspiration of most TV channels to give attention to all parties/bloc, running for elections, to avoid connotational references. If some political forces were out of the broadcast media attention scope, this was due to their own passiveness. This is true primarily of "Christian People Renaissance" party, which, during the first days of pre-election promotion, did not use even the free airtime on public TV and radio.

In the second half, as the voting day drew nearer and the political competition got tougher, the share of connotational coverage increased significantly. For three parties, the Republican Party of Armenia, "Dashnaktsutun", "Prosperous Armenia" that have certain levers of influencing TV channels the reference balance was overwhelmingly positive, whereas the opposition "Orinats Yerkir" had its balance strongly negative. Three other opposition parties/bloc - "Republic", "New Times" and "Impeachment" - received several dozen times less coverage than RPA, "Dashnaktsutun" and "Prosperous Armenia", despite their active campaigning. Similarly to "Orinats Yerkir", these political forces had a negative balance of connotational references. And if in the case of "Orinats Yerkir" this balance was due to the scandal of publishing a secret transcript of the conversation the party leader had with a British diplomat, the three others were covered negatively mostly due to the clashes with the police that occurred after their rally on May 9.

The advantage that the three parties, leading in terms of the airtime allocated, the frequency of appearing in TV pieces and in terms of invitations to the programs of "guest in studio" format, had was particularly evident on the last day of pre-election promotion, May 10. While at some TV channels half of the parties, running in elections, did not receive any coverage at all, the Republican Party of Armenia received 13,788 sec., "Prosperous Armenia" - 9,675 sec. and "Dashnaktsutun" - 9,044 sec. Thus, on the last day these parties were allocated about 1.5-2 times as much airtime that on an "average" day of pre-election promotion. The fourth, by the results on May 10, was the United Labour Party - 4,558 sec., exceeding its "average" figures more than four times. On the final day of promotion these very four parties had more opportunities than others to take part in "guest in studio" programs in the broadcast media studied: "Prosperous Armenia" and RPA - 5 times each, "Dashnaktsutun" - 3, United Labour Party - 2. It is noteworthy that these parties, enjoying the effect of "last impression", were those President Robert Kocharian mentioned in his interview to three Armenian TV channels as the parties he would like to see in the Parliament. The interview was broadcast on May 10, too.

Overall, during the 33 days of pre-election promotion the aggregate figure of RPA on the evening TV air made 279,637 sec. and 2,447 references, "Dashnaktsutun" - 217,885 sec. and 1,220 references, "Prosperous Armenia" - 175,947 sec. and 981 references. They are followed at a notable distance by "Orinats Yerkir" (82,842 sec. and 751 references) and the Popular Party (78,030 sec. and 277 references) that in their turn are quite ahead of the next group. Yet, the Popular Party received 92% of its airtime on "ALM" TV channel, owned by the leader of the Party Tigran Karapetian. In terms of the number of invitations to "guest in studio" programs almost all the same parties are the leaders, albeit in a somewhat different order: RPA - 74 times, "Prosperous Armenia" - 73, "Dashnaktsutun" - 66. With a significant gap, the fourth in this category was "Orinats Yerkir" - 31 times.

It is important to note that from the start of pre-election promotion (April 8), unlike February-March, the monitors recorded any media appearance of politicians who take the first three lines in the electoral party lists as attention to the respective party - even if they were presented as appearing in the line of their non-party work or position held. This was conditioned, firstly, by a common unwritten norm - the individuals, running in elections, must restrict their public activeness as officials during the pre-election campaign (otherwise this activeness can be considered as a use of administrative resource), and, secondly, by the circumstance that at election times the audience associates political leaders with the parties they head, regardless of whether their party affiliation is stressed or not.

During the pre-election promotion the First Channel of the Public Television, and the Public Radio displayed the greatest balance in covering the parties/bloc. This refers primarily to the attention distribution among the competing political forces, and in case of the radio - also to the minimal number of connotational references. Both public broadcasters aspired to observe the letter of the law and were generally successful in meeting this target (in the case with radio it is important to note that the airtime studied included an hour-long program of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty, and this, to a certain extent

contributed to forming a general picture of a balanced coverage). At the same time, in some of the TV pieces, dealing with the pre-election events held by the opposition parties, elements of irony were present - which did not find its reflection in the quantitative findings of the monitoring, even though it influenced the perception of information by the audience.

The broadest coverage of the political spectrum during the pre-election promotion was ensured by "Yerkir Media" and "Kentron" TV channels. They both, along with "ALM" and the Second Armenian TV Channel, were among the leaders in terms of the editorial coverage of parties.

"Yerkir Media" gave a substantial advantage to "Dashnaksutiun" both in terms of airtime (89,425 sec. - almost 7 times as much as the Republican Party of Armenia, gaining the second place) and in terms of the number of references (526 versus 264 of RPA), as well as in terms of invitations to "guest in studio" programs (11 versus 6 of "Orinats Yerkir" and "Prosperous Armenia" each). "Yerkir Media" displayed quite level attitude to other parties, running in elections. This was manifest along all dimensions, including the list of "guests in studio": only 5 parties (the broadest spectrum coverage among all TV channels) did not take part in the programs of this format, even though they had been duly invited.

"Kentron", as compared to the period prior to pre-election promotion, somewhat narrowed the circle of parties it was interested in. This affected, in particular, the list of "guests in studio": thus, if in March this year in the 32 programs of this format, where politicians took part, 13 parties were represented, on April 8 - May 10 in 73 programs of the kind 9 parties appeared.

The two other TV channels that were most active in covering elections had their attention to parties distributed less evenly than "Yerkir Media" and "Kentron". This is particularly true for "ALM" where 68% of the "party" airtime was given to the Popular Party and RPA. On the Second Armenian TV Channel 83% of the "party" airtime was allocated to four parties - "Dashnaksutiun", RPA, United Liberal National Party (ULNP) and "Prosperous Armenia". It should be noted that the airtime of ULNP was partly due to the broadcasting of the entertaining shows with the participation of Garik Martirosian, the number two candidate of the party till May 2. In these shows background advertising of ULNP was made as well.

Approximately equal level of attention to elections and of balance in covering the pre-election campaign out of the Yerevan TV channels studied was displayed by "Shant", "TV 5" and "AR". Of these, the former two TV channels were more frequent than the last in using the "guest in studio" genre. Besides, "AR" had a significant gap (more than fivefold) between the first (RPA) and the second ("Dashnaksutiun") places by airtime allocation.

"Armenia" and "ArmNews" were the least active in covering the pre-election campaign of all the TV channels studied. And while in case of "Armenia" this can be explained by the new profile of the TV company that has given up a number of news and current affairs programs in early 2007, replacing them by entertainment, the small volume of party coverage by "ArmNews" does not correspond to the idea of a 24-hour news TV channel that it is. In fact, "ArmNews" did little to contribute to the awareness of the audience about elections, particularly, if one takes into account the fact that 17,102 sec. of its "party" airtime (ten times less than that of the most politically active TV channels) were constituted by the numerous repetitions of the same stories.

On 8 out of 13 TV channels studied, during the pre-election campaign political advertising was completely absent from the evening air, on three others it was of sporadic nature (on "Yerkir Media" and "Armenia" each 8 parties used it, and on "ALM" - 6). The reasons for that were, in some cases, the high tariffs on political advertising, in others - the prior decision of the TV companies not to give airtime to pre-election promotion at all. Thus, only the public TV channels (the First Channel and "Shirak") regularly - as prescribed by the law - provided air to parties for their promotion. This circumstance influenced the voters' awareness, too, and affected, in particular, the public in regions of Armenia that did not have the assortment of the TV channels and the volume of elections reporting the audience in Yerevan had.

Even the voters of the second biggest city of Armenia, Gyumri, where it is possible to receive four national TV channels and where four local TV channels are broadcast, were quite behind their compatriots in Yerevan in terms of awareness. Only one of the Gyumri TV channels, "Shirak", placed political advertising on its air, and the main figures of the three TV channels studied ("Shirak", "Tsayg" and "GALA") are a sign of their very restricted capacities to familiarize the audience with parties, running

in elections. The residents of other regions, where only 2-3 national and 1 local TV channel are accessible, were even more deprived of information. This refers primarily to the awareness about the parties/bloc, running in elections by proportional representation system that received less attention from the local media than the majority candidates.

In the four newspapers studied, similarly to the TV channels, predominance of pieces on Republican Party of Armenia has been recorded, followed by "Prosperous Armenia", "Dashnaktsutun" and "Orinats Yerkir". However, in terms of connotational references, unlike the TV channels, it is not only "Orinats Yerkir", but also the three other leading parties that have a negative balance in newspapers. This balance was formed due to private dailies "Haikakan Zhamanak" and "Aravot"; in official "Hayastani Hanrapetutian" and "Respublika Armenia" the three leaders have either positive or neutral balance.

"Haikakan Zhamanak" was one of the main tribunes of the pre-election promotion of "Impeachment" bloc, "Republic" and "New Times" parties. Besides the positive editorial coverage, these political forces were allocated newspaper space for free pre-election announcements.

"Aravot" daily was the only one among those studied that had its space used by parties - by "Heritage" more than others - for paid advertising.

The official bodies that are to trace the compliance with electoral legislation in media recorded only one violation: this was the episode when the Marxist Party of Armenia "conceded" the time allocated to it for free advertising on the Public Television to another person, violating Clause 13 of the CEC Resolution No. 84-a.

Meanwhile, no response came to other episodes that raised certain questions with regard to compliance with electoral legislation. In particular, the TV and radio coverage during the study period of a whole number of visits and meetings, participation in pre-election events of individuals, holding political, discretionary posts, civil servants and representatives of local self-government can be qualified as a violation of Article 22 Prime of the RA Electoral Code. These episodes are related, mostly, to the coverage of events where representatives of the Republican Party of Armenia participated.

The performance on air of the promotional songs of the parties, running in elections, with no "political advertising" title and no appropriate payment could also be seen as violation of Article 11 of the RA Law "On Television and Radio", prohibiting the broadcasting of promotional materials disguised as "news, editorial, documentary, author or other programs".

The announcements of pre-election events, placed in commercial advertising slots, were also questionable, particularly for the TV channels that did not announce the pre-election promotion tariffs within the timeframes specified by law and, correspondingly, having no right to such advertising. Meanwhile, the announcements on pre-election events should be qualified as political and not commercial advertising.

Finally, the negative reference to the People's Party of Armenia in a story of the "Day by Day" newscast of April 13 could be qualified as a law infringement made by "ALM", since the author's text contained assessments of this party, which is prohibited by the new provision of the electoral legislation (Article 20 of the RA Electoral Code).

*(The quantitative findings of the media monitoring on April 8 - May 10, 2007 are reflected in "Tables and Charts" section.)*

## **MAIN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The analysis of media situation in Armenia throughout the past years and the monitoring of coverage of elections to the RA National Assembly 2007 give the Yerevan Press Club and the "TEAM" Research Center ground to come up with a number of conclusions and recommendations that can contribute to the improvement of the media components of the election campaigns in the country, primarily, of the presidential campaign in 2008 in accordance with international standards.

**First**, certain amendments are necessary in the provisions of electoral legislation dealing with media activities. In particular, it is important to make a more distinct definition of which materials of broadcast

media should bear the “political advertising” or “pre-election promotional program” titles, and, correspondingly, tariffs for which TV and radio programs should be announced within the timeframes stipulated by law. The lack of clarity in this issue results in differing interpretations and disputes having no legal solution.

**Second**, the legislation must distinctly define the concept of “period that precedes the pre-election promotion”. According to the law, during this period the political promotion is prohibited, including the political advertising in media, and the rationale of the existing provisions prompts that it covers the interval between the announcement of elections till start of the “pre-election promotion”. However, the lack of a clear delimitation results in a situation when in the interpretation of the bodies, responsible for the observation of the electoral legislation, the Central Election Commission and the National Commission on Television and Radio, there is no period when the political advertising is prohibited. This, on its behalf is one of the reasons that during the months right before the pre-election promotion the political forces, holding media influence levers, use the airtime almost unlimitedly, while their rivals are completely devoid of this opportunity.

**Third**, the bodies above, responsible for the compliance with the electoral legislation, did not respond to the vast majority of cases, when the political parties, public figures, experts signaled there have been law infringements. As noted above, not all the provisions of the Electoral Code and the media legislation have clear definitions. However a discussion of all issues, questionable in terms of compliance with law, at CEC and NCTR would have allowed enhancing the effectiveness of applying the electoral legislation and getting a better idea of the ways for its improvement.

**Fourth**, during the study of media work in the pre-election period the problems, related to the undeveloped institutional mechanisms of self-regulation in the information sphere, became apparent. The media coverage was affected, in particular, by the absence of workable rules of reporting on pre-election events, on official meetings during the pre-election period, on the activities of officials, running for seats at the NA, the access of the owners, media heads and journalists taking part in elections to the air. None of the TV companies introduced restrictions on the production and broadcasting of entertaining TV shows with the participation of politicians. As a result, the principle of equal conditions for all candidates and parties was quite frequently violated. Situations arose, when the talk of using administrative resource can be well-grounded. The experience of the past elections again reinforces the need for forming and strengthening media self-regulation institute. However, taking into account that this process is complex and lengthy (whereas the next national elections are in less than a year), it appears reasonable to consider the possibility of introducing certain rules regarding the issues above legislatively.

*(For the problems covered in paragraphs 1-4 see also the Overview of the Legislation, Regulating the Activities of Media During Elections).*

**Fifth**, a certain degree of plurality in the broadcast media, as recorded during elections, did not compensate for the significant restriction imposed on the freedom of TV journalists over the recent years. As a consequence, the political forces, for which the air was fully or partially closed, could not become fully understandable for the voters. Particularly since the big number of parties (25 parties), running in elections, worsened the problem of deficient time to present their programs, approaches, opinions. And the citizens did not have the necessary opportunities to make a truly well-informed choice. As three months before the elections showed, the most effective factor, ensuring the balanced reporting on political processes is their observation from the perspective of legality and compliance with public interest. It is the implementation of the monitoring and the activity of the international observation missions, in the absence of appropriate effective official instruments on national level that conditioned the positive changes in the activities of the broadcast media. This observation at the same time did not in any way restrict the editorial independence. Moreover, to a certain degree it freed the journalist from the political restrictions, unspoken imposed by the power structures and the loyal media owners. In this regard the post-election period may hold a danger of return to the previous practice of tough control and dosed information. And it is the long periods between the elections and not the two or three months of pre-election campaigns that define the media development trends. For this reason some form of monitoring over the compliance of the TV channels with political pluralism principles, implemented with the help of international organizations, with which Armenia is linked by commitments in democracy and human rights, remains important during the periods between elections, too.



**Sixth**, the pre-election political awareness of the voters was affected also by the reduction in broadcast media of the number and the volume of news, commentary, discussion programs presenting different perspectives on the urgent issues faced by the country. Not only the opposition politicians, but also journalists, political analysts, representatives of NGOs, notable for their independent judgment, critical view of reality, have restricted access to air. This circumstance also impeded the voters' orientation in the flow of political ideas, the differentiation of populist and realistic promises. The problem of lack of current affairs/political programs to significant extent affected the public broadcasting, too.

**Seventh**, similarly to the presidential elections of 2003, the restricted possibilities for political promotion on TV air were due to high tariffs for political advertising - often much higher than those for commercial advertising. And a number of TV channels, both in Yerevan and in regions, did not announce the tariffs for political advertising, as required by the law, and thus voluntarily (?) refusing to have it. This trend had a particularly adverse effect on opposition parties, since the pro-governmental ones have alternative opportunities to use TV air. Similarly to the two factors, listed above, in the fifth and sixth paragraphs, this gives reason to speak about a coordinated, or even a managed policy in the whole of broadcasting sphere.

**Eighth**, the voters in the Armenian regions found themselves in a less favorable situation in terms of awareness than their counterparts in Yerevan. While the residents of Yerevan received information from, at least 15 Armenian TV channels, the population of some regions have only 2-3. "Yerkir Media" and "Kentron", presenting the most complete and diverse political information, are unavailable in regions. The PTA First Channel, the Second Armenian TV Channel, "Armenia" and "ALM" that cover all or most of the territory of Armenia were behind the two leaders of "political air" in terms of activeness, and the local TV companies due to restricted resources could not be a replacement of the Yerevan channels for their audience. Besides, as noted above, most of them refused placing political advertising on air. The information scarcity in the regions is another consequence of the broadcasting policy implemented over the past years. Its radical change is an important condition of democratic reforms, and, in particularly, the administration of free elections in Armenia.

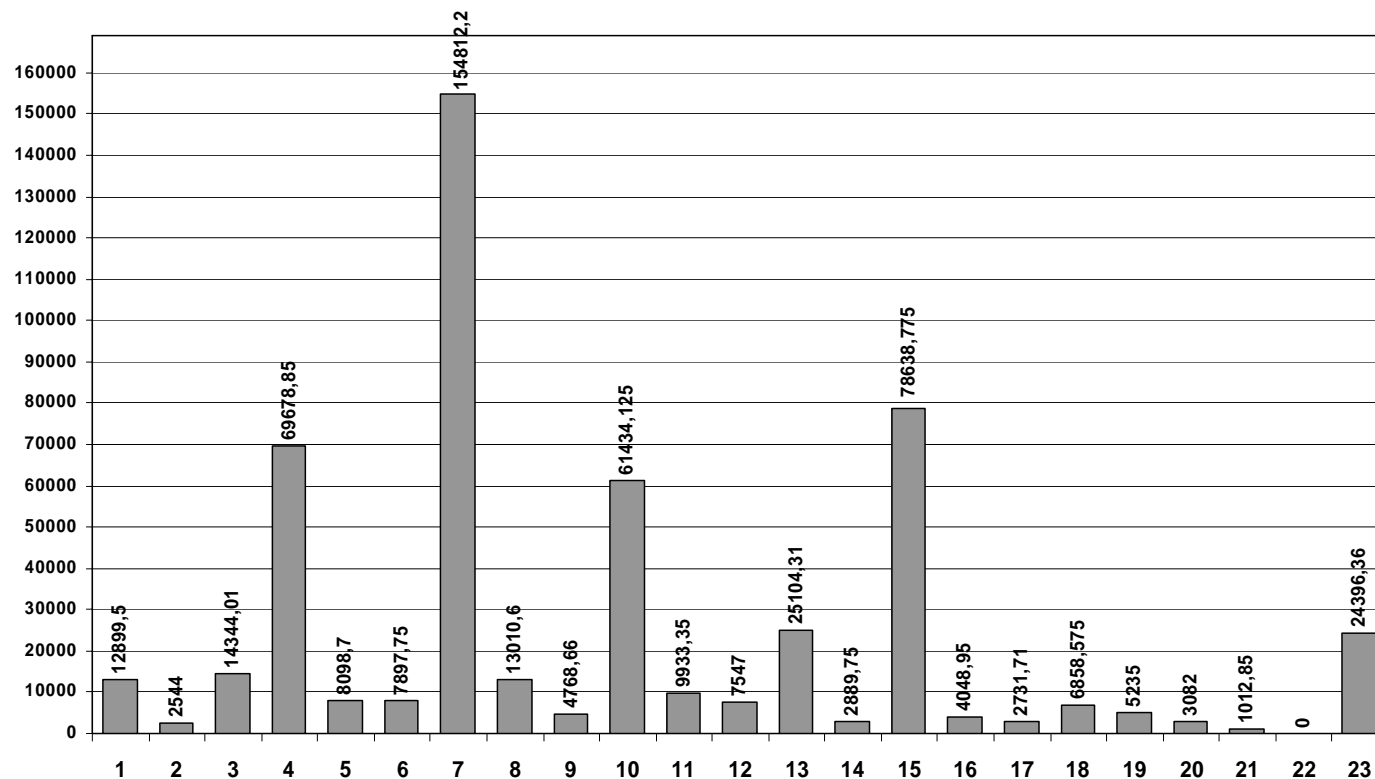
**Ninth**, having become more accessible for opposition parties at election times, the TV channels however, did not become more open for "negative information", i.e., the facts, reflecting the troublesome aspects of the life in the country. The focus of most broadcast media on the coverage of success and achievements, silencing of shortcomings and incidents, "spoiling" the overall picture, were apparent also during the months when monitoring was administered (*see also the Overview of the Coverage of Violations, Recording in the Campaign for Elections to RA National Assembly 2007, in the Newscasts of TV and Radio Channels*). In the newscasts studied the reports of local and foreign observers, political parties on the violations in the course of elections were often neglected, and if communicated, then, as a rule, in the official interpretation.

**Tenth**, print media remain a much less significant factor in the political life of Armenia than the broadcast ones. Enjoying much greater freedom and notable for political diversity, they do not have as much influence on the electoral processes as the television does. The print runs of newspapers are extremely low, the regular delivery of print periodicals is made to cities only. The political forces display all the less interest in newspapers at election times. The problems of print media can only have a complex solution that is not directly linked to electoral processes.

**TABLES AND CHARTS**  
**FEBRUARY-MARCH 2007**

February 1 - March 31, 2007

Airtime, allocated to parties/bloc, running for seats at the RA NA, by seven TV channels studied:  
First Channel of Public Television of Armenia, Second Armenian TV Channel, "ALM", "Armenia", "Yerkir Media", "Kentron", "Shant"



1. National Democratic Party
2. "Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party
3. "Azgayin Miabanutiun"/"National Unity" party
4. "Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party
5. "Dashink"/"Alliance" party
6. "Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party
7. Popular Party
8. "Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party
9. "Impeachment" bloc\*
10. "Dashnaktsutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation
11. Democratic Party of Armenia
12. Youth Party of Armenia\*
13. People's Party of Armenia

14. Communist Party of Armenia
15. Republican Party of Armenia
16. Marxist Party of Armenia
17. "Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic" party
18. United Labour Party
19. United Liberal National Party\*
20. "Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party
21. Social Democratic Hnchak Party
22. "Christian People Renaissance" party\*
23. "Orinats Yerkir" party

\* These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007

February 1 - March 31, 2007

Number of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
First Channel of Public Television of Armenia

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (units)	Number of TV pieces on party/bloc (units)	Airtime, allocated to party/bloc in a TV piece (sec.)	Number of advertising slots/ announcements/ materials on party/bloc (units)	Duration of advertising slots/ announcements /materials on party/bloc (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia	27	87	11749,5	0	0
2.	"Dashnaktsutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation	36	46	5920,1	0	0
3.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/"National Unity" party	10	27	5098,51	0	0
4.	"Orinats Yerkir" party	11	32	4778,26	0	0
5.	People's Party of Armenia	27	39	4143,21	0	0
6.	Marxist Party of Armenia	17	26	3057,95	0	0
7.	United Labour Party	8	17	2754,5	0	0
8.	Democratic Party of Armenia	10	12	2170,85	0	0
9.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party	13	21	1991,6	0	0
10.	National Democratic Party	9	10	1922,5	0	0
11.	Popular Party	10	4	1710	0	0
12.	"Impeachment" bloc**	2	17	1286,66	0	0
13.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party	16	21	914,85	0	0
14.	Armenian National Movement	6	9	484,86	0	0
15.	Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia (till March 27)*	5	3	127,1	0	0
16.	"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party	7	5	109,75	0	0
17.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party	3	3	73,25	0	0
18.	"Hayots Hairenik" party (till March 27)*, **	4	1	70,1	0	0
19.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic" party	6	5	68,71	0	0
20.	"Dashink"/"Alliance" party	6	5	54	0	0
21.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party	4	1	53	0	0
22.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party	4	3	46,5	0	0
23.	Communist Party of Armenia	2	3	39,75	0	0
24.	Progressive Party of Armenia	5	2	13	0	0
25.	Progressive United Communist Party of Armenia (till March 27)*, **	3	1	3	0	0
26.	Youth Party of Armenia**	5	0	0	0	0
27.	United Liberal National Party**	5	0	0	0	0
28.	"Christian People Renaissance" party**	4	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>48641,51</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\* These parties did not submit registration documents to CEC within the timeframes stipulated (before May 28), which is why their coverage was monitored till March 27.

\*\* These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007.

February 1 - March 31, 2007

Number of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
Second Armenian TV Channel

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (units)	Number of TV pieces on party/bloc (units)	Airtime, allocated to party/bloc in a TV piece (sec.)	Number of advertising slots/ announcements/ materials on party/bloc (units)	Duration of advertising slots/ announcements /materials on party/bloc (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia	71	120	17295,5	0	0
2.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party	31	31	8401	0	0
3.	"Dashnaktsutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation	39	56	5673,5	0	0
4.	People's Party of Armenia	40	34	3338,5	0	0
5.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party	13	15	3109	0	0
6.	National Democratic Party	7	17	2385	0	0
7.	"Orinats Yerkir" party	26	21	1536	0	0
8.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/"National Unity" party	16	12	1203	0	0
9.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party	4	6	946	0	0
10.	United Liberal National Party**	4	2	786	0	0
11.	Popular Party	13	8	758	0	0
12.	Communist Party of Armenia	5	4	617	0	0
13.	United Labour Party	15	12	439	0	0
14.	Democratic Party of Armenia	14	13	412	0	0
15.	"Dashink"/"Alliance" party	6	8	401,5	0	0
16.	Marxist Party of Armenia	8	5	326	0	0
17.	Progressive Party of Armenia	4	3	207	0	0
18.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic" party	8	5	147	0	0
19.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party	7	3	147	0	0
20.	Armenian National Movement	4	2	56	0	0
21.	"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party	17	2	12	0	0
22.	Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia (till March 27)*	3	0	0	0	0
23.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party	10	0	0	0	0
24.	"Hayots Hairenik" party (till March 27)*, **	2	0	0	0	0
25.	"Impeachment" bloc**	6	0	0	0	0
26.	Progressive United Communist Party of Armenia (till March 27)*, **	2	0	0	0	0
27.	Youth Party of Armenia**	7	0	0	0	0
28.	"Christian People Renaissance" party**	4	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>48196</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\* These parties did not submit registration documents to CEC within the timeframes stipulated (before May 28), which is why their coverage was monitored till March 27.

\*\* These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007.

February 1 - March 31, 2007

Number of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“ALM” TV channel

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (units)	Number of TV pieces on party/bloc (units)	Airtime, allocated to party/bloc in a TV piece (sec.)	Number of advertising slots/ announcements/ materials on party/bloc (units)	Duration of advertising slots/ announcements /materials on party/bloc (sec.)
1.	Popular Party	20	55	151123,2	128	23022
2.	Republican Party of Armenia	27	65	7921,2	0	0
3.	Youth Party of Armenia**	11	6	7386	0	0
4.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party	18	18	7114	0	0
5.	“Orinats Yerkir” party	15	32	5947	0	0
6.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party	13	7	2560	0	0
7.	“Dashnaksutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation	21	28	1203,2	0	0
8.	People’s Party of Armenia	19	20	956	0	0
9.	Communist Party of Armenia	11	5	566	0	0
10.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party	19	11	550	0	0
11.	Armenian National Movement	18	7	484,5	0	0
12.	National Democratic Party	13	6	475	0	0
13.	United Labour Party	19	11	391,2	17	29840
14.	“Impeachment” bloc**	10	8	320	0	0
15.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party	9	5	295,2	0	0
16.	Marxist Party of Armenia	9	1	214	0	0
17.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic” party	13	6	154	0	0
18.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party	10	4	89	0	0
19.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party	15	2	64	0	0
20.	Democratic Party of Armenia	15	3	35	0	0
21.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party	9	0	0	0	0
22.	Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia (till March 27)*	7	0	0	0	0
23.	Progressive Party of Armenia	9	0	0	0	0
24.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party	11	0	0	0	0
25.	“Hayots Hairenik” party (till March 27)*, **	7	0	0	0	0
26.	Progressive United Communist Party of Armenia (till March 27)*, **	7	0	0	0	0
27.	United Liberal National Party**	9	0	0	0	0
28.	“Christian People Renaissance” party**	9	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>373</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>187848,5</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>52862</b>

\* These parties did not submit registration documents to CEC within the timeframes stipulated (before May 28), which is why their coverage was monitored till March 27.

\*\* These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007.

February 1 - March 31, 2007

Number of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
"Armenia" TV channel

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (units)	Number of TV pieces on party/bloc (units)	Airtime, allocated to party/bloc in a TV piece (sec.)	Number of advertising slots/ announcements/ materials on party/bloc (units)	Duration of advertising slots/ announcements /materials on party/bloc (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia	64	86	6127	0	0
2.	"Dashnaktsutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation	20	29	1528	0	0
3.	People's Party of Armenia	16	22	1401	0	0
4.	National Democratic Party	5	9	915	0	0
5.	"Orinats Yerkir" party	4	13	786,5	0	0
6.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party	7	9	481	0	0
7.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party	11	9	479	0	0
8.	Armenian National Movement	4	10	450	0	0
9.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/"National Unity" party	4	7	339	0	0
10.	"Dashink"/"Alliance" party	1	3	232	0	0
11.	Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*	1	5	209	0	0
12.	United Labour Party	11	7	170,5	0	0
13.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party	3	2	101	0	0
14.	Marxist Party of Armenia	1	1	40	0	0
15.	Progressive United Communist Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **	0	2	40	0	0
16.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic" party	1	4	29	0	0
17.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party	2	2	26	0	0
18.	Democratic Party of Armenia	2	2	22	0	0
19.	Communist Party of Armenia	3	1	21	0	0
20.	"Impeachment" bloc**	0	2	16	0	0
21.	"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party	7	2	8	0	0
22.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party	1	0	0	0	0
23.	Popular Party	2	0	0	0	0
24.	Progressive Party of Armenia	1	0	0	0	0
25.	"Hayots Hairenik" party ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Youth Party of Armenia**	1	0	0	0	0
27.	United Liberal National Party**	2	0	0	0	0
28.	"Christian People Renaissance" party**	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>13421</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\* These parties did not submit registration documents to CEC within the timeframes stipulated (before May 28), which is why their coverage was monitored till March 27.

\*\* These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007.

February 1 - March 31, 2007

Number of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“Yerkir Media” TV channel

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (units)	Number of TV pieces on party/bloc (units)	Airtime, allocated to party/bloc in a TV piece (sec.)	Number of advertising slots/ announcements/ materials on party/bloc (units)	Duration of advertising slots/ announcements /materials on party/bloc (sec.)
1.	“Dashnaksutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation	139	174	26110,225	0	0
2.	Armenian National Movement	23	25	7949,625	0	0
3.	Republican Party of Armenia	98	106	6444,375	0	0
4.	National Democratic Party	11	15	5351	0	0
5.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party	22	10	4973	0	0
6.	Democratic Party of Armenia	34	17	3319,5	0	0
7.	“Impeachment” bloc**	16	6	2886	0	0
8.	United Liberal National Party**	10	2	2622	0	0
9.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party	22	21	2469	3	14593
10.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party	56	41	2124,5	0	0
11.	People’s Party of Armenia	33	38	1974	0	0
12.	“Orinats Yerkir” party	37	37	1892	0	0
13.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party	36	10	1823	0	0
14.	United Labour Party	26	19	1680,375	0	0
15.	Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*	14	11	1589	0	0
16.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party	58	20	868,5	0	0
17.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party	25	9	729,5	0	0
18.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic” party	28	10	679	0	0
19.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party	10	3	165	0	0
20.	Popular Party	24	5	116	0	0
21.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party	13	3	44,6	0	0
22.	Progressive Party of Armenia	16	0	0	0	0
23.	Communist Party of Armenia	12	0	0	0	0
24.	Marxist Party of Armenia	14	0	0	0	0
25.	“Hayots Hairenik” party ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **	9	0	0	0	0
26.	Progressive United Communist Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **	6	0	0	0	0
27.	Youth Party of Armenia**	18	0	0	0	0
28.	“Christian People Renaissance” party**	7	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>817</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>75810,2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14593</b>

\* These parties did not submit registration documents to CEC within the timeframes stipulated (before May 28), which is why their coverage was monitored till March 27.

\*\* These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007.



February 1 - March 31, 2007

Number of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“Kentron” TV channel

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (units)	Number of TV pieces on party/bloc (units)	Airtime, allocated to party/bloc in a TV piece (sec.)	Number of advertising slots/ announcements/ materials on party/bloc (units)	Duration of advertising slots/ announcements /materials on party/bloc (sec.)
1.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party	24	120	48705	6	210
2.	Republican Party of Armenia	143	119	21826	0	0
3.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation	121	75	13746	0	0
4.	People’s Party of Armenia	116	77	12611	0	0
5.	“Orinats Yerkir” party	58	81	8795	0	0
6.	Armenian National Movement	36	32	6443	0	0
7.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party	110	57	4412	0	0
8.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party	17	30	4293	0	0
9.	Progressive Party of Armenia	5	12	3981	0	0
10.	Democratic Party of Armenia	23	18	3910	0	0
11.	Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*	8	16	3095	0	0
12.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party	19	21	2687	0	0
13.	United Liberal National Party**	0	2	1827	0	0
14.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic” party	24	30	1644	0	0
15.	National Democratic Party	71	12	1540	0	0
16.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party	2	3	1348	0	0
17.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party	19	30	1279	0	0
18.	Communist Party of Armenia	12	14	1221	0	0
19.	United Labour Party	26	35	1219	0	0
20.	Popular Party	10	16	651	0	0
21.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party	4	7	612	0	0
22.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party	13	19	541	0	0
23.	Marxist Party of Armenia	6	6	236	0	0
24.	Youth Party of Armenia**	5	4	161	0	0
25.	“Impeachment” bloc**	10	7	149	0	0
26.	“Hayots Hairenik” party ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **	4	1	11	0	0
27.	Progressive United Communist Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **	1	0	0	0	0
28.	“Christian People Renaissance” party**	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>887</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>146943</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>210</b>

\* These parties did not submit registration documents to CEC within the timeframes stipulated (before May 28), which is why their coverage was monitored till March 27.

\*\* These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007.

February 1 - March 31, 2007

Number of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“Shant” TV channel

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (units)	Number of TV pieces on party/bloc (units)	Airtime, allocated to party/bloc in a TV piece (sec.)	Number of advertising slots/ announcements/ materials on party/bloc (units)	Duration of advertising slots/ announcements /materials on party/bloc (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia	46	73	7275,2	0	0
2.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation	42	49	7253,1	0	0
3.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party	4	12	1940,5	0	0
4.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party	14	9	1873	0	0
5.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party	13	13	1767	0	0
6.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party	3	1	1650	0	0
7.	Armenian National Movement	8	11	1291,5	0	0
8.	People’s Party of Armenia	15	14	680,6	0	0
9.	“Orinats Yerkir” party	13	12	661,6	0	0
10.	Popular Party	4	3	454	0	0
11.	Communist Party of Armenia	2	4	425	0	0
12.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party	1	5	354	0	0
13.	Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*	7	7	353	0	0
14.	National Democratic Party	3	8	311	0	0
15.	United Labour Party	10	8	204	0	0
16.	Marxist Party of Armenia	3	3	175	0	0
17.	“Impeachment” bloc**	4	6	111	0	0
18.	Democratic Party of Armenia	6	2	64	0	0
19.	Progressive United Communist Party of Armenia ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **	1	2	50	0	0
20.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party	6	2	44	0	0
21.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party	0	1	35	0	0
22.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party	0	2	32	0	0
23.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic” party	0	1	10	0	0
24.	Progressive Party of Armenia	0	0	0	0	0
25.	“Hayots Hairenik” party ( <i>till March 27</i> )*, **	0	0	0	0	0
26.	Youth Party of Armenia**	0	0	0	0	0
27.	United Liberal National Party**	0	0	0	0	0
28.	“Christian People Renaissance” party**	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>27014,5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

\* These parties did not submit registration documents to CEC within the timeframes stipulated (before May 28), which is why their coverage was monitored till March 27.

\*\* These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007.

**Parties/bloc that had their representatives invited to participate in the discussion programs of 7 TV channels studied**

Party/Bloc	February 2007								March 2007								Total for two months
	PTA First Channel	Second Channel	Armenia	ALM	Shant	Kentron	Yerkir Media	Total	PTA First Channel	Second Channel	Armenia	ALM	Shant	Kentron	Yerkir Media	Total	
"Dashnaktsutun" party	1	1	0	0	3	7	3	15	1	1	0	0	1	3	6	12	27
Republican Party of Armenia	2	1	1	0	0	3	3	10	2	1	0	1	2	7	2	15	25
Popular Party	0	0	0	7	0	0	0	7	1	0	0	9	0	0	0	10	17
"Bargavach Hayastan"/ "Prosperous Armenia" party	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	3	0	2	0	1	0	6	0	9	12
"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/ "Democratic Way" party	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	1	0	1	1	1	3	7	10
Armenian National Movement	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	5	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	8
People's Party of Armenia	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	4	0	6	8
National Democratic Party	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	4	7
Democratic Party of Armenia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	4	5
"Orinats Yerkir" party	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	5
"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/ "National Unity" party	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	3	4
"Dashink"/"Alliance" party	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	3
Liberal Progressive Party of Armenia (till March 27)*	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	3
United Liberal National Party**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	3
"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/ "National Accord" party	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Progressive Party of Armenia	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2
United Labour Party	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Youth Party of Armenia**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	2
Communist Party of Armenia	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1
"Impeachment" bloc**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Progressive United Communist Party of Armenia (till March 27)*, **	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1
Marxist Party of Armenia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic" party	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Social Democratic Hnchak Party	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
"Hayots Hairenik" party (till March 27)*, **	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
"Christian People Renaissance" party**	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>152</b>

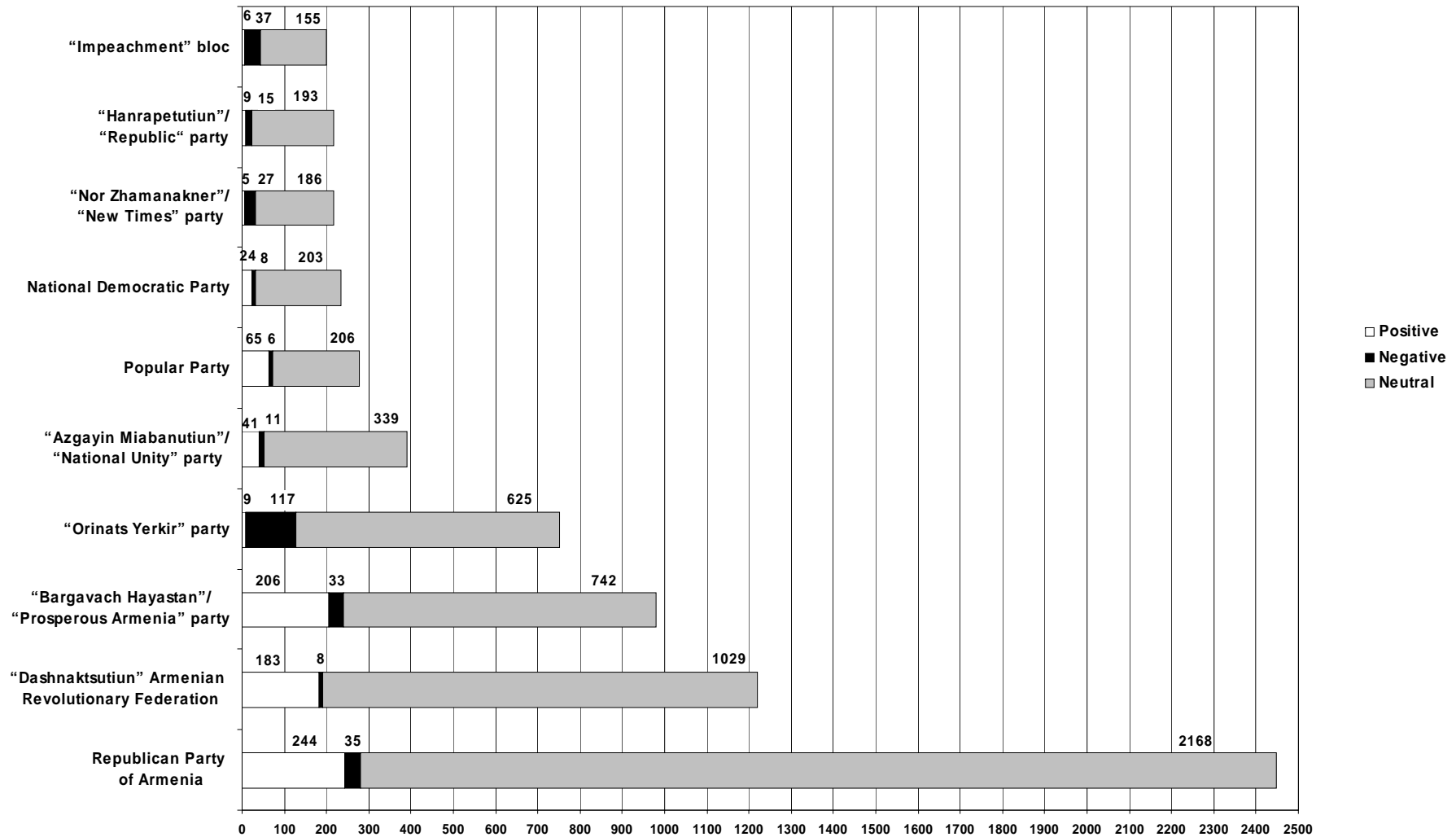
\* These parties did not submit registration documents to CEC within the timeframes stipulated (before May 28), which is why their coverage was monitored till March 27.

\*\* These parties/bloc were not monitored in February 2007.

**TABLES AND CHARTS**  
**APRIL-MAY 2007**

April 8 - May 10, 2007

Number and nature of references (units) of parties/bloc (only the parties/bloc that had a significant number of connotational references recorded, i.e., 10% and more of the total number of references) on 13 TV channels studied: PTA First Channel, "ALM", "Armenia", Second Armenian TV Channel, "AR", "ArmNews", "Yerkir Media", "Kentron", TV 5, "Shant", "Shirak" public TV channel, "Tsayg", "GALA"



April 8 - May 10, 2007

**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on First Channel of the Public Television of Armenia**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	-	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	185	16	1	168	14542,6	3316	3584
2.	People's Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	68	3	0	65	9868	437	3594
3.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	64	16	0	48	7636,2	7078	3600
4.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/"National Unity" party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	57	13	0	44	6794,7	5717	3592
5.	"Orinats Yerkir" party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	47	1	5	41	6775,1	5693	3598
6.	"Dashnaksutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	69	13	1	55	6663,3	6287	3600
7.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	53	0	0	53	3070,5	0	3088
8.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	14	0	0	14	1920,5	2515	3451
9.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	8	0	0	8	1760,5	0	3555
10.	"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatrian	13	0	0	13	1719,5	3138	3566
11.	"Dashink"/"Alliance" party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	12	2	0	10	1299,3	5934	3600
12.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	9	0	0	9	1276,5	0	2042
13.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	13	1	0	12	1174,4	2314	3588
14.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	4	0	0	4	1027	90	3572
15.	"Impeachment" bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	16	0	2	14	743,5	2748	3589
16.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	11	0	0	11	623,5	3194	3544
17.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic " party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Sureh Abrahamian	10	0	2	8	545	1138	3586
18.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	6	0	0	6	505,6	117	3570
19.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	12	0	0	12	395,7	2471	3513
20.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	6	1	0	5	252,1	0	3205
21.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	9	0	3	6	242	6795	3600
22.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	1	0	0	1	2	0	2478
23.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	1	0	0	1	2	242	3080
24.	"Christian People Renaissance" party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	1	0	0	1	2	0	1673
25.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	0	0	0	0	0	1517	3381
	<b>Total</b>	<b>689</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>68841,5</b>	<b>60741</b>	<b>83249</b>

April 8 - May 10, 2007

**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“ALM” TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	88	63	0	25	71625,5	2259	0
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	157	34	2	121	64159,5	0	0
3.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	38	6	1	31	21550,5	318	0
4.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	8	1	0	7	10429,5	0	0
5.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	17	0	5	12	9981	337	0
6.	“Azgayin Miabanutun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	15	1	1	13	5867,5	0	0
7.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	7	1	0	6	5320,5	0	0
8.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	42	0	23	19	3876,5	120	0
9.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	11	0	2	9	2832	0	0
10.	“Dashnaksutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	35	6	1	28	2417,5	963	0
11.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	10	0	5	5	559	0	0
12.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	14	0	3	11	507,5	0	0
13.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	7	0	0	7	491	0	0
14.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	5	0	1	4	414	0	0
15.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	8	0	2	6	227,5	0	0
16.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	5	0	0	5	186	0	0
17.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	4	0	0	4	171	16	0
18.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian (till April 29)	6	0	0	6	99	0	0
19.	Social Democratic Hinchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	3	1	0	2	87	0	0
20.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian (till May 2), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	3	0	0	3	73	0	0
21.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	4	0	0	4	36,5	0	0
22.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian (till May 2)	2	0	0	2	30	0	0
23.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	1	0	0	1	5	0	0
24.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	1	0	0	1	5	0	0
25.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>491</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>200951,5</b>	<b>4013</b>	<b>0</b>

April 8 - May 10, 2007

**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“Armenia” TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	114	21	1	92	9036,2	439	0
2.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	34	9	0	25	3365,2	2872	0
3.	“Dashnaktsutun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	24	9	0	15	2597,2	1655	0
4.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	20	1	1	18	1353	819	0
5.	“Zharangutun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	11	1	0	10	996	979	0
6.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	13	0	0	13	658,5	1321	0
7.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	10	0	0	10	623	0	0
8.	“Azgayin Miabanutun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	7	0	0	7	484,5	3223	0
9.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	5	0	0	5	460	875	0
10.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	5	0	0	5	452	0	0
11.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgun Eghiazarian	6	0	2	4	306	0	0
12.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	3	0	0	3	244	0	0
13.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	2	0	0	2	214,5	0	0
14.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	3	0	0	3	154	0	0
15.	“Hanrapetutun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	5	0	1	4	145	0	0
16.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechan	2	0	0	2	136	0	0
17.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	2	0	0	2	77	0	0
18.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	2	0	0	2	44,7	0	0
19.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	4	0	1	3	31	0	0
20.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	1	0	0	1	15	0	0
21.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	2	0	0	2	12	0	0
22.	United Labour Party: Gurgun Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	1	1	0	0	8	0	0
23.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>21412,8</b>	<b>12183</b>	<b>0</b>



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**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
Second Armenian TV Channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	-	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	"Dashnaktsutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	146	10	1	135	35121	0	0
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	356	29	2	325	34773	0	0
3.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	39	0	0	39	25109	0	0
4.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	146	38	0	108	23554	0	0
5.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	34	0	2	32	3535	0	0
6.	"Orinats Yerkir" party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	59	1	34	24	3458	0	0
7.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	15	3	0	12	2479	0	0
8.	People's Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	44	0	4	40	2363	0	0
9.	"Zharangutun"/"Heritage" party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	38	0	0	38	2278	0	0
10.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	23	0	4	19	2253	0	0
11.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	17	0	0	17	2189	0	0
12.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/"National Unity" party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	25	2	3	20	1491	0	0
13.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Guren Eghiazarian	16	0	2	14	800	0	0
14.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	18	1	1	16	699	0	0
15.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	6	0	0	6	620	0	0
16.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	8	0	0	8	500	0	0
17.	"Impeachment" bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	17	0	6	11	458	0	0
18.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic " party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	10	0	3	7	439	0	0
19.	"Dashink"/"Alliance" party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	12	0	0	12	430	0	0
20.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	8	0	2	6	166	0	0
21.	United Labour Party: Guren Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	12	0	0	12	122	0	0
22.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	2	0	0	2	56	0	0
23.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	2	0	0	2	10	0	0
24.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	1	0	0	1	9	0	0
25.	"Christian People Renaissance" party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	3	0	0	3	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1057</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>142912</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“AR” TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	316	53	0	263	31115	0	0
2.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	52	6	0	46	5804	0	0
3.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	31	1	2	28	4129	0	0
4.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	74	0	21	53	2836	0	0
5.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgun Eghiazarian	26	0	4	22	2480	0	0
6.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	34	0	0	34	2448	0	0
7.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	9	0	0	9	2255	0	0
8.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	9	0	0	9	2165	0	0
9.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	12	1	0	11	2156	0	0
10.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	29	0	0	29	982	0	0
11.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	19	0	0	19	808	0	0
12.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	41	2	0	39	718	0	0
13.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	24	0	0	24	689	0	0
14.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	17	0	2	15	492	0	0
15.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	11	0	2	9	403	0	0
16.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	22	2	4	16	388	0	0
17.	United Labour Party: Gurgun Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	17	0	0	17	374	0	0
18.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	10	0	0	10	322	0	0
19.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	10	0	2	8	315	0	0
20.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	8	0	0	8	291	0	0
21.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	10	0	4	6	246	0	0
22.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	5	0	0	5	219	0	0
23.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	6	0	0	6	150	0	0
24.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	4	0	0	4	114	0	0
25.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>796</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>61899</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“ArmNews” TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	144	1	0	143	11285	0	0
2.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	21	0	0	21	1962	0	0
3.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	11	0	0	11	1197	0	0
4.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	21	0	0	21	815	0	0
5.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	11	0	0	11	610	0	0
6.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatrian	15	0	0	15	448	0	0
7.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	7	0	0	7	165	0	0
8.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgun Eghiazarian	5	0	0	5	142	0	0
9.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	6	0	2	4	130	0	0
10.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	2	0	0	2	115	0	0
11.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	8	0	2	6	69	0	0
12.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	6	0	0	6	37	0	0
13.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	1	0	0	1	33	0	0
14.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	2	0	0	2	32	0	0
15.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian (till April 29)	2	0	0	2	25	0	0
16.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	2	0	0	2	21	0	0
17.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	2	0	0	2	16	0	0
18.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian (till May 2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	United Labour Party: Gurgun Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian (till May 2), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>17102</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“Yerkir Media” TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	526	94	1	431	89425,1	3117	0
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	264	0	12	252	12420,1	1722	0
3.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	127	1	10	116	11303,6	0	0
4.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	170	0	10	160	10703,1	1362	0
5.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	67	0	0	67	8844	0	0
6.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	54	0	0	54	4035,1	0	0
7.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatrian	38	2	0	36	4031,3	3706	0
8.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	34	0	0	34	3792,5	92	0
9.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	22	0	1	21	3393,3	944	0
10.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	8	0	0	8	3140,5	0	0
11.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	45	0	0	45	2962,5	0	0
12.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	56	0	0	56	2745,5	147	0
13.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	48	0	0	48	2719	0	0
14.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	29	0	0	29	2293,3	0	0
15.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	24	0	3	21	2053	0	0
16.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	27	0	0	27	1942,3	0	0
17.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	38	0	0	38	1923	0	0
18.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	7	0	0	7	1882	0	0
19.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtich (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	5	0	0	5	1805,5	0	0
20.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian (till April 29)	18	0	2	16	1766,5	0	0
21.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	26	0	0	26	1054,8	1203	0
22.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	24	0	1	23	505	0	0
23.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	22	0	0	22	296	0	0
24.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian (till May 2), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	8	0	0	8	180	0	0
25.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian (till May 2)	9	0	0	9	142	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1696</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>1559</b>	<b>175359</b>	<b>12293</b>	<b>0</b>

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**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“Kentron” TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	212	84	0	128	40425	0	0
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	224	23	0	201	25019	0	0
3.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	139	10	0	129	23045	0	0
4.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	43	0	0	43	16425	0	0
5.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	94	0	11	83	9293	0	0
6.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	54	23	0	31	5676	0	0
7.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	12	0	0	12	3589	0	0
8.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	19	0	0	19	3129	0	0
9.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	35	0	7	28	2517	0	0
10.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	88	23	0	65	2207	0	0
11.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatrian	42	1	0	41	1762	0	0
12.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	87	23	0	64	1500	0	0
13.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	26	1	2	23	1347	0	0
14.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	15	0	0	15	801	0	0
15.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	13	0	1	12	764	0	0
16.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	11	0	1	10	674	0	0
17.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	18	0	0	18	630	0	0
18.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	30	0	2	28	588	0	0
19.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	27	0	6	21	584	0	0
20.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	6	0	0	6	570	0	0
21.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	9	0	0	9	256	0	0
22.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtich (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	3	0	0	3	240	0	0
23.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	9	0	0	9	200	0	0
24.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	6	0	0	6	181	0	0
25.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	5	0	0	5	96	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1227</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1009</b>	<b>141518</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

April 8 - May 10, 2007

**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on TV 5 channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	-	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	76	21	4	51	22175	0	0
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	159	42	3	114	20971	0	0
3.	"Dashnaktsutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	65	13	0	52	14567	0	0
4.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	9	2	0	7	7278	0	0
5.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	19	1	2	16	3852	0	0
6.	"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	34	11	0	23	3637	0	0
7.	"Dashink"/"Alliance" party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechan	6	0	0	6	1815	0	0
8.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic" party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	10	5	1	4	1719	0	0
9.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	5	0	2	3	1583	0	0
10.	"Orinats Yerkir" party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	33	0	6	27	730	0	0
11.	People's Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	22	0	1	21	558	0	0
12.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	12	0	0	12	458	0	0
13.	"Impeachment" bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	21	6	5	10	441	0	0
14.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgun Eghiazarian	12	5	2	5	352	0	0
15.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	5	0	1	4	232	0	0
16.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/"National Unity" party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	19	0	3	16	203	0	0
17.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	2	0	0	2	155	0	0
18.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	4	0	0	4	150	0	0
19.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	2	0	0	2	50	0	0
20.	United Labour Party: Gurgun Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	11	0	0	11	45	0	0
21.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	2	0	0	2	16	0	0
22.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	3	0	0	3	8	0	0
23.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	"Christian People Renaissance" party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>80995</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“Shant” TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	-	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	210	23	0	187	24719,9	0	0
2.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	88	25	0	63	22436,9	0	0
3.	“Dashnaksutun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	49	4	0	45	16010,9	0	0
4.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	23	0	2	21	2567	0	0
5.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	8	0	0	8	2025,5	0	0
6.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	9	0	0	9	1688	0	0
7.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	32	0	0	32	1687	0	0
8.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarjan, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	38	3	2	33	552,4	0	0
9.	“Zharangutun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	19	2	0	17	525	0	0
10.	“Azgayin Miabanutun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	26	0	0	26	408,4	0	0
11.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	13	0	0	13	396	0	0
12.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	10	0	0	10	318	0	0
13.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	11	0	0	11	310	0	0
14.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	15	0	0	15	304	0	0
15.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	18	0	2	16	246,4	0	0
16.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	14	0	2	12	239	0	0
17.	“Hanrapetutun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Sureh Abrahamian	11	0	2	9	234	0	0
18.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	7	0	0	7	196	0	0
19.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	9	0	2	7	142	0	0
20.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	5	0	0	5	125	0	0
21.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	7	0	0	7	104	0	0
22.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	2	0	0	2	19	0	0
23.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	1	0	0	1	6	0	0
24.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatryan, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>625</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>556</b>	<b>75260,4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“Shirak” public TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	8	0	0	8	5897,3	6287	3600
2.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	12	0	1	11	5867,3	7078	3600
3.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	8	0	1	7	4763,3	5693	3598
4.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	4	0	0	4	3665,3	5717	3592
5.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	16	0	1	15	3393,8	3316	3584
6.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	5	0	0	5	3053,1	3194	3544
7.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	5	0	0	5	2803	437	3594
8.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	5	1	0	4	2572	1517	3381
9.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	3	0	0	3	2263	2314	3588
10.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	5	0	0	5	2128	2515	3451
11.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	4	0	0	4	1958	5934	3600
12.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian (till May 2), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	2	0	0	2	1948	0	3205
13.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alavardian, Vardan Khachatrian	30	0	0	30	1930	3138	3566
14.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	5	0	1	4	1151	2748	3589
15.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	4	0	0	4	995	90	3572
16.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrich (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	3	0	0	3	464	0	1673
17.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	3	0	0	3	420	242	3080
18.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	3	0	0	3	383	117	3570
19.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	3	0	0	3	356	0	3555
20.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayyazian	2	0	0	2	352	0	3088
21.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	4	0	0	4	342	2471	3513
22.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	4	0	0	4	337	6795	3600
23.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayyazian, Suren Abrahamian	4	0	0	4	165	1138	3586
24.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian (till May 2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2478
25.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian (till April 29)	0	0	0	0	0	0	2042
	<b>Total</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>47207,1</b>	<b>60741</b>	<b>83249</b>



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**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“Tsayg” TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	34	18	0	16	13848	0	0
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	100	1	0	99	11963,8	0	0
3.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	52	4	4	44	9124,2	0	0
4.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	36	0	0	36	8923,6	0	0
5.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	12	0	2	10	2871,6	0	0
6.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	12	0	0	12	2546,1	0	0
7.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	11	0	0	11	1856	0	0
8.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	3	0	0	3	1186,5	0	0
9.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	1	0	0	1	1153	0	0
10.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	8	0	0	8	1138,6	0	0
11.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	7	0	0	7	405	0	0
12.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	12	0	0	12	312,2	0	0
13.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	8	0	0	8	175	0	0
14.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	1	0	0	1	134	0	0
15.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	8	0	0	8	106,2	0	0
16.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	2	0	0	2	64	0	0
17.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	6	0	0	6	38,8	0	0
18.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian (till May 2)	2	0	0	2	9	0	0
19.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
21.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian (till April 29)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian (till May 2), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
24.	Social Democratic Hinchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
25.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>290</b>	<b>55855,6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

April 8 - May 10, 2007

**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on  
“GALA” TV channel**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	124	3	1	120	29447,7	0	0
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	202	1	13	188	16238,2	0	0
3.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	62	0	0	62	7367,3	0	0
4.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	42	0	0	42	6912,9	0	0
5.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	80	0	13	67	6593,8	0	0
6.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	35	0	0	35	5099,2	0	0
7.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	8	0	0	8	2765	0	0
8.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	51	4	0	47	2489,6	0	0
9.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	6	0	0	6	2471	0	0
10.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	33	0	0	33	2060,4	0	0
11.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	26	0	3	23	1404,1	0	0
12.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	32	0	0	32	1169,4	0	0
13.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	10	0	0	10	1168	0	0
14.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	28	0	0	28	868,3	0	0
15.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatrian	24	0	0	24	706,9	0	0
16.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	10	0	0	10	576	0	0
17.	“Dashnaksutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	52	0	4	48	527,1	0	0
18.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	8	0	0	8	401	0	0
19.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	14	0	0	14	234	0	0
20.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	4	0	0	4	24	0	0
21.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	5	0	0	5	6,7	0	0
22.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	3	0	0	3	0	0	0
24.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	3	0	0	3	0	0	0
25.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	3	0	0	3	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>88530,6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc on Public Radio of Armenia**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Airtime allocated to party/bloc (sec.)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	-	0		Paid (sec.)	Free (sec.)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	168	0	9	159	17487	0	3480
2.	"Orinats Yerkir" party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	88	0	3	85	10920	434	1200
3.	"Bargavach Hayastan"/"Prosperous Armenia" party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	98	0	6	92	10119	0	3583
4.	"Dashnaksutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	91	0	4	87	9179	0	3469
5.	People's Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	69	0	2	67	8404	0	3391
6.	"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/"National Unity" party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	57	0	0	57	6811	0	3396
7.	"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	46	0	0	46	6233	2625	3240
8.	"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic" party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	42	0	0	42	6207	0	190
9.	"Dashink"/"Alliance" party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	31	0	0	31	5147	0	3240
10.	"Impeachment" bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	34	0	0	34	3553	0	3028
11.	"Nor Zhamanakner"/"New Times" party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgun Eghiazarian	32	0	0	32	3276	0	2992
12.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	22	0	0	22	2820	1378	3600
13.	United Labour Party: Gurgun Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	30	0	0	30	2598	0	2640
14.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	21	0	2	19	2211	0	0
15.	"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/"Democratic Way" party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	15	0	0	15	2060	0	3334
16.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	11	0	0	11	1676	91	3337
17.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian (till April 29)	13	0	0	13	1170	0	1854
18.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	10	0	0	10	1081	0	1974
19.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	11	0	0	11	1074	0	3578
20.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian (till May 2), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	5	0	0	5	749	0	3217
21.	"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/"National Accord" party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	6	0	0	6	594	30	3167
22.	"Christian People Renaissance" party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	6	0	0	6	575	0	1775
23.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	7	0	0	7	399	0	0
24.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian (till May 2)	4	0	0	4	131	0	2063
25.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	0	0	0	0	0	0	3386
	<b>Total</b>	<b>917</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>104474</b>	<b>4558</b>	<b>65134</b>

April 8 - May 10, 2007

**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, newspaper space, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc in  
“Hayastani Hanrapetutium” daily**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Newspaper space allocated to party/bloc (sq. cm)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sq. cm)	Free (sq. cm)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	157	4	0	153	33203,6	0	0
2.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	43	3	0	40	3794,5	0	0
3.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	36	2	0	34	2995,8	0	0
4.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	25	2	0	23	2289,3	0	0
5.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	40	1	5	34	2251,4	0	0
6.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	25	1	0	24	2149,8	0	0
7.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	19	2	0	17	1627,3	0	0
8.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	14	0	0	14	1327,2	0	0
9.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	18	3	0	15	1290,9	0	0
10.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	18	0	1	17	1078,3	0	0
11.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	20	1	0	19	1027,1	0	0
12.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	22	0	1	21	1025,8	0	0
13.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	25	0	0	25	954,7	0	0
14.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	15	0	0	15	924,4	0	0
15.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	16	0	1	15	678,4	0	0
16.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	14	0	0	14	676,4	0	0
17.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	11	0	0	11	663,7	0	0
18.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	9	0	0	9	573,4	0	0
19.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	13	1	0	12	500,7	0	0
20.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	8	0	0	8	439,5	0	0
21.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	8	0	0	8	338,7	0	0
22.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	8	0	0	8	306,2	0	0
23.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	7	0	0	7	242,9	0	0
24.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	7	0	0	7	234,8	0	0
25.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	7	0	0	7	89,9	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>557</b>	<b>60684,7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

April 8 - May 10, 2007

**Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, newspaper space, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc in  
“Respublika Armenia” newspaper**

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Newspaper space allocated to party/bloc (sq. cm)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sq. cm)	Free (sq. cm)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	35	8	1	26	3864,2	0	0
2.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	9	3	0	6	1932	0	0
3.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	10	0	4	6	1349,2	0	0
4.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	4	0	2	2	449	0	0
5.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	7	2	0	5	404,7	0	0
6.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	6	2	0	4	386,6	0	0
7.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	4	0	0	4	316,1	0	0
8.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgun Eghiazarian	3	0	2	1	310,4	0	0
9.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	2	0	0	2	297,7	0	0
10.	“Dashnaksutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	7	0	0	7	285,7	0	0
11.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	1	0	0	1	210,6	0	0
12.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	2	0	0	2	110,1	0	0
13.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	3	1	0	2	37,4	0	0
14.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	2	0	0	2	27,4	0	0
15.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	2	0	1	1	26,3	0	0
16.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	1	0	0	1	14,1	0	0
17.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	1	0	0	1	14,1	0	0
18.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	1	0	0	1	14,1	0	0
19.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	1	0	0	1	14,1	0	0
20.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	1	0	0	1	14,1	0	0
21.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	2	0	0	2	2,9	0	0
22.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	1	0	0	1	2,9	0	0
23.	United Labour Party: Gurgun Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	1	0	0	1	2,9	0	0
24.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>10086,6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

April 8 - May 10, 2007

Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, newspaper space, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc in  
“Aravot” daily

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Newspaper space allocated to party/bloc (sq. cm)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sq. cm)	Free (sq. cm)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	206	2	32	172	20574	0	0
2.	“Dashnaktsutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	76	4	13	59	5444	0	0
3.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	84	0	6	78	5305,9	0	0
4.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	97	3	23	71	4895,2	577,2	0
5.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	44	2	1	41	4448,4	0	0
6.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	47	1	0	46	3561,76	2104,4	0
7.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	34	2	0	32	2365,4	389,5	0
8.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	28	0	2	26	1892,2	0	0
9.	United Labour Party: Gurgen Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	39	0	7	32	1835,1	936	0
10.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic “ party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	30	1	0	29	1781,6	36,5	0
11.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Gurgen Eghiazarian	34	1	1	32	1387,5	36,5	0
12.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	12	0	0	12	1253,2	0	0
13.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	20	1	0	19	1104,6	0	0
14.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	23	0	0	23	1033,44	0	0
15.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	23	0	2	21	994,1	0	0
16.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian ( <i>till May 2</i> ), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	10	0	1	9	789,7	0	0
17.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	21	1	0	20	774	0	0
18.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	10	1	0	9	592,9	0	0
19.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian ( <i>till April 29</i> )	15	0	0	15	425,4	0	0
20.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	8	0	0	8	311,1	0	0
21.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	9	0	1	8	271,5	0	0
22.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian ( <i>till May 2</i> )	5	0	0	5	263,6	0	0
23.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	5	0	0	5	153,1	0	0
24.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	3	0	0	3	103,7	0	0
25.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtych (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	3	0	0	3	28,6	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>778</b>	<b>61590</b>	<b>4080,1</b>	<b>0</b>

April 8 - May 10, 2007

Number and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, newspaper space, political advertising, allocated to parties/bloc in  
“Haikakan Zhamanak” daily

	Party/Bloc	Number of references (units)	Nature of references			Newspaper space allocated to party/bloc (sq. cm)	Political advertising of the party/bloc	
			+	–	0		Paid (sq. cm)	Free (sq. cm)
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Serge Sargsian, Tigran Torosian, Hovik Abrahamian	146	0	40	106	15560,5	0	0
2.	“Bargavach Hayastan”/“Prosperous Armenia” party: Gagik Tsarukian, Aram Isabekian, Gohar Yenokian	92	0	32	60	7774,5	0	0
3.	“Impeachment” bloc: Nikol Pashinian, Mikael Hairapetian, Petros Makeyan	49	3	0	46	6304,4	0	3682
4.	“Dashnaksutiun” Armenian Revolutionary Federation: Vahan Hovhannesian, Armen Rustamian, David Lokian	39	0	8	31	3847,1	0	0
5.	“Hanrapetutiun”/“Republic” party: Aram Zaveni Sargsian, Smbat Ayvazian, Suren Abrahamian	46	3	0	43	3686	0	329,1
6.	“Nor Zhamanakner”/“New Times” party: Aram Karapetian, Alexan Minasian, Guren Eghiazarian	36	2	0	34	3278,5	0	329,1
7.	“Orinats Yerkir” party: Artur Baghdasarian, Mher Shahgeldian, Heghineh Bisharian	36	0	3	33	3153	0	0
8.	Popular Party: Tigran Karapetian, Samvel Shahgaldian, Gagik Stepanian	15	0	3	12	2044,9	0	0
9.	People’s Party of Armenia: Stepan Demirchian, Albert Bazeyan, Grigor Harutiunian	23	0	2	21	1368,9	0	0
10.	Marxist Party of Armenia: David Hakobian, Albert Arshakian, Norik Ayvazian	6	0	0	6	979,9	0	0
11.	“Zharangutiun”/“Heritage” party: Raffi Hovannisian, Larisa Alaverdian, Vardan Khachatryan	12	0	1	11	792,9	0	0
12.	Social Democratic Hnchak Party: Ludmila Sargsian, Albert Gabrielian, Ara Sargsian	3	0	0	3	517	0	0
13.	“Dashink”/“Alliance” party: Samvel Babayan, Liana Terian, Gnel Ghlechian	11	0	0	11	431,6	0	0
14.	“Azgayin Miabanutiun”/“National Unity” party: Artashes Geghamian, Alexan Karapetian, Koryun Arakelian	14	0	1	13	416,4	0	0
15.	“Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi”/“Democratic Way” party: Manuk Gasparian, Arshak Sadoyan, Aghasi Arshakian	7	0	0	7	245	0	0
16.	National Democratic Party: Shavarsh Kocharian, Hranush Kharatian, Taron Arakelian	6	0	0	6	226,7	0	0
17.	United Liberal National Party: Levon Martirosian, Garik Martirosian (till May 2), David Atanesian, Samson Hakobian	5	0	0	5	190,4	0	0
18.	Armenian National Movement: Ararat Zurabian, Aram Manukian, Andranik Hovakimian (till April 29)	4	0	0	4	188,2	0	0
19.	“Christian People Renaissance” party: Mkrtich (Sos) Gimishian, Aram Grigorian, Hovhannes Kurghinian	2	0	0	2	179,4	0	0
20.	United Labour Party: Guren Arsenian, Grigor Ghonjeyan, Sergey Sarajian	8	0	0	8	173,3	0	0
21.	Youth Party of Armenia: Sargis Asatrian, Vahan Babayan, Zhasmen Asrian	2	0	0	2	101	0	0
22.	“Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun”/“National Accord” party: Aram Harutiunian, Alexander Manasian, Manvel Eghiazarian	3	0	0	3	88,3	0	0
23.	Democratic Party of Armenia: Aram Gaspari Sargsian, Armen Hovsepian, Karineh Hakobian	3	0	0	3	84,7	0	0
24.	Progressive Party of Armenia: Tigran Urikhanian, Naira Hairapetian, Ashot Mnatsakanian (till May 2)	4	0	0	4	65,2	0	0
25.	Communist Party of Armenia: Ruben Tovmasian, Tachat Sargsian, Gagik Manukian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>474</b>	<b>51697,8</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4340,2</b>

April 8 - may 10, 2007

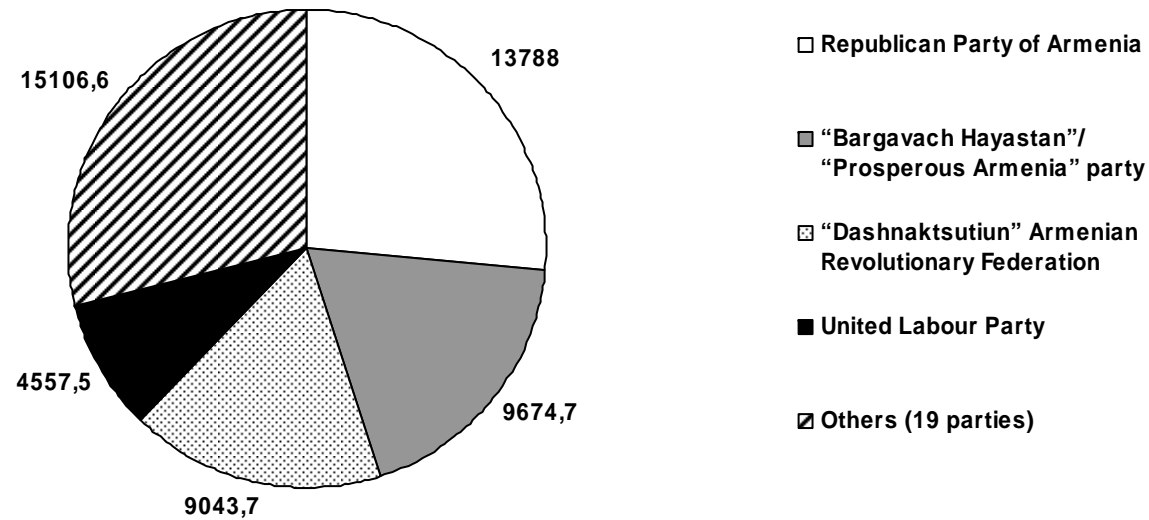
**Parties/bloc that had their representatives invited to participate in the discussion programs  
of the TV and radio channels studied**

Party/Bloc	PTA First Channel	ALM	Armenia	Second Armenian TV Channel	AR	ArmNews	Yerkir Media	Kentron	TV 5	Shant	Shirak	Tsayg	GALA	Public Radio of Armenia	Total
Republican Party of Armenia	1	11	0	9	6	2	4	13	8	8	2	4	6	0	<b>74</b>
"Bargavach Hayastan"/ "Prosperous Armenia" party	2	4	0	16	0	0	6	18	10	11	3	1	2	0	<b>73</b>
"Dashnaksutiun" Armenian Revolutionary Federation	1	0	0	16	2	0	11	16	6	9	3	1	0	1	<b>66</b>
"Orinats Yerkir" party	1	0	0	0	0	0	6	6	0	0	4	2	10	2	<b>31</b>
United Labour Party	0	5	0	0	0	0	1	11	0	0	1	1	2	1	<b>22</b>
National Democratic Party	1	0	0	3	0	0	3	4	2	1	1	1	1	1	<b>18</b>
People's Party of Armenia	3	0	0	1	1	0	5	0	0	1	2	2	1	1	<b>17</b>
Popular Party	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	<b>16</b>
"Azgayin Miabanutiun"/ "National Unity" party	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	2	5	2	<b>15</b>
United Liberal National Party	0	0	0	6	0	0	0	2	4	1	2	0	0	0	<b>15</b>
"Dashink"/"Alliance" party	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	1	0	2	1	<b>9</b>
Communist Party of Armenia	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	<b>9</b>
"Zharangutiun"/"Heritage" party	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	1	2	0	1	<b>8</b>
"Nor Zhamanakner"/ "New Times" party	0	2	0	0	1	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	<b>8</b>
"Azgayin Hamadzaynutiun"/ "National Accord" party	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	<b>7</b>
"Zhoghovrdavarakan Ughi"/ "Democratic Way" party	0	1	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	<b>7</b>
"Impeachment" bloc	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	<b>6</b>
Democratic Party of Armenia	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	<b>5</b>
Youth Party of Armenia	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
Armenian National Movement (till April 29)	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	<b>4</b>
"Hanrapetutiun"/"Republic " party	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	<b>4</b>
Social Democratic Hnchak Party	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
"Christian People Renaissance" party	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>2</b>
Marxist Party of Armenia	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>1</b>
Progressive Party of Armenia (till May 2)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>424</b>



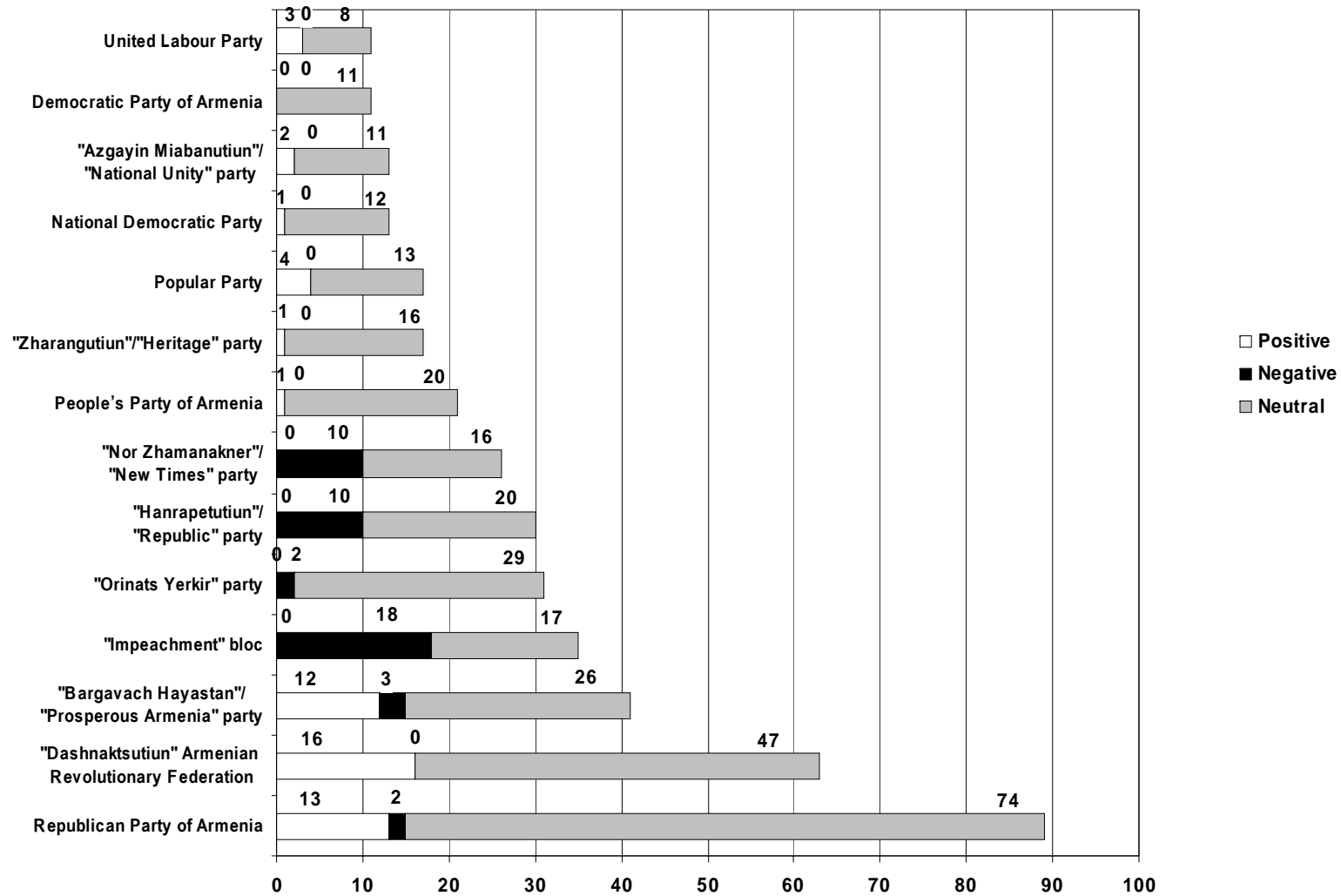
May 10, 2007

Airtime (in sec.), allocated to parties/bloc on the last day of the official promotion campaign (the four that received most coverage and the rest in aggregation) on 13 TV channels studied: PTA First Channel, "ALM", "Armenia", Second Armenian TV Channel, "AR", "ArmNews", "Yerkir Media", "Kentron", TV 5, "Shant", "Shirak" public TV channel, "Tsayg", "GALA"



May 10, 2007

Partes/bloc that received the greatest number of references on the last day of official promotion campaign (11 and more, in units)  
on 13 TV channels studied: PTA First Channel, "ALM", "Armenia", Second Armenian TV Channel, "AR", "ArmNews",  
"Yerkir Media", "Kentron", TV 5, "Shant", "Shirak" public TV channel, "Tsayg", "GALA"



# **OVERVIEW OF THE COVERAGE OF VIOLATIONS, RECORDED IN THE CAMPAIGN FOR ELECTIONS TO RA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY 2007, IN THE NEWSCASTS OF TV AND RADIO CHANNELS**

The methodology for administering the monitoring of the Armenian media coverage of the parliamentary elections 2007 (the period of pre-election promotion, from April 8 to May 10, 2007) included also recording of the references that TV and radio channels monitored made to the facts of violations in the electoral process and of the electoral legislation in the newscasts of these channels (from 18.00 till 24.00, for “Shirak” - 16.00-20.00, see details in *Guidelines for Monitoring the Armenian Media Coverage of Parliamentary Elections of 2007*).

Further the information received was compared with similar facts recorded by local and international organizations. At the same time the monitoring group realizes that not all the cases recorded by observers and NGOs had factual grounding or proofs, and hence, the media were not obliged to address all of them. However, the coverage of some, most loud incidents was important for an adequate response from bodies, ensuring the legality of elections as well as for maximally complete awareness of the citizens.

Below the organizations whose reports and opinions were used as a basis for comparison are listed:

## **1. International organizations:**

- International Election Observation Mission (IEOM), a joint undertaking of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) and the European Parliament (EP);
- the Observation Mission of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly.

## **2. Local organizations:**

- “It’s Your Choice” NGO;
- Vanadzor Office of Helsinki Citizens Assembly;
- “Heritage” Party;
- “Asparez” Journalist’s Club of Gyumri;
- Transparency International Armenia;
- Other NGOs.

The violations and shortcomings, recorded above by these and other organizations were grouped together as follows:

1. Use of administrative resource in the course of pre-election promotion;
2. Illegal influences on the voters. Electoral violations and bribe disguised as humanitarian and other aid;
3. Facts of obstructing pre-election promotion;
4. Disproportionate representation of political forces in the election commissions;
5. Shortcomings in the electoral lists.

Having analyzed the news programs of the broadcast media, the group of monitoring arrived at the conclusion that they mostly limited themselves to the reporting of the violations and shortcomings that were discussed at the press-conference of representatives of parties/bloc, majority candidates, as well

as in statements of observers, the RA CEC, the RA Prosecutor's Office, the RA Police. At the same time even the facts announced at briefing, press-conferences of the observation organizations were not always reflected in the news reports.

In essence the only incident that received prompt and repeated coverage were the explosions that occurred in the early morning of April 12 at the two pre-election headquarters of "Prosperous Armenia" party, located in David Anghaght park of Kanaker-Zeytun community of Yerevan and at 39, Narekatsi of Avan community of Yerevan.

A similar incident, the arson in the morning of April 8 in Ejmiatsin of the pre-election headquarters of the majority candidate Susanna Harutiunian, was not covered in the newscasts of the TV companies studied on April 8. On the same day only the Armenian Service of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty reported about it (the hour-long program of the Armenian Service of Radio Liberty was studied under the monitoring of the Public Radio of Armenia, on the wave of which it is aired). The TV companies referred to the incident on April 10, in the context of the court of primary jurisdiction of Armavir hearing the suit, filed by candidate Hakob Varshami Hakobian about the abolishment of the registration of candidates Susanna Harutiunian and Hakob Rafiki Hakobian.

## **1. THE USE OF ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCE IN THE COURSE OF PRE-ELECTION PROMOTION**

*The reports of the organizations record 13 cases of such violations. The newscasts studied mentioned none.*

The report of "It's Your Choice" NGO mentions:

"The promotion campaign of the RPA (Republican Party of Armenia) in the regions was accompanied by working visits of the RA Prime Minister. In essence they were joined, which is proved by the consultations, held at the RA Government by working visit results after the promotional trips to regions.

The promotional campaign of "Dashnaktsutiun" party had active participation from the RA Ministers and Deputy Ministers of Education and Science, Agriculture, Health. In particular, the working visits were joint with the regional pre-election promotion of the RA Minister of Health: he, quite obviously, as the official in charge of Armenian health care, made checkups at the medical institutions, made working comments to the medical staff; while exercising control, he at the same time promoted "Dashnaktsutiun" party.

The promotional campaigns of "Dashnaktsutiun", RPA, "Prosperous Armenia" party in the regions were accompanied with the activities of outgoing groups of doctors, formed by the medical staff from within the Ministry of Health who provided medical assistance to the population - held medical examinations, surgeries, provided medicines".

The Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions of the International Election Observation Mission (IEOM, a joint undertaking of the OSCE/ODIHR, the OSCE PA, the PACE and the European Parliament, released on May 13, reads:

"The separation of the ruling party and the State appeared to be less than distinct in some important elements of the campaign, the most visible of which was the convergence of the election campaign of the Republican Party with a longer-running campaign celebrating the fifteenth anniversary of the Armenian Army, sponsored by the Ministry of Defense. (...)

(...) The Republican Party campaign converged with the Army's anniversary campaign, with evident crossover of campaign messages and featured participants. The merging of the image of the party (whose leader was until recently the Minister of Defense) with the symbols and accomplishments of the armed forces was evident. As a result, the separation between the ruling party and the State appeared to be less than distinct."

The TV companies in their newscasts covered such meetings, visits and events; however, in none of them was it mentioned that these were electoral violations. In essence, the media did not qualify the use of administrative resource as a violation. This may be due to the fact that this problem is not sufficiently defined by the electoral legislation (see *the Overview of the Legislation, Regulating Media Activities During Elections*).

## **2. ILLEGAL INFLUENCES ON VOTERS. ELECTORAL VIOLATIONS AND BRIBES DISGUISED AS HUMANITARIAN AND OTHER AID**

*The reports of the organizations list around 60 cases of such violations. The newscasts studied mentioned 10.*

All the organizations above have recorded numerous facts of such violations.

Below the most common cases are quoted, as described in the report of "It's Your Choice" NGO:

"Throughout the weeks preceding the official promotion campaign the representatives of the youth organization of "Dashnaktsutiun" party worked on the refurbishment of the yards of some apartment buildings in the 12th electoral district, which was accompanied by a distribution of "Dashnaktsutiun" pre-elections leaflets.

On April 18 in Yerevan in the pre-election headquarters of "Bargavach Hayastan", located next to "MEK" furniture store and in Sarkavag street, the voters were distributed spectacles. A mass distribution of spectacles by "Bargavach Hayastan" also occurred on the territory of the 16th electoral territory (e.g., in Kharberd).

The practice of spectacle distribution was applied also by RPA, in the 17th electoral territory".

The international observers in the statement of preliminary findings of May 13 mentioned above stated the following:

"The OSCE/ODIHR EOM also heard allegations that some voters were under pressure to vote for certain parties or candidates, for fear of consequences, such as job dismissal. A candidate (and incumbent deputy) from Syunik region confirmed that workers at a large enterprise he owned were obliged to vote for him, but he characterized this as consistent with contemporary global corporate management styles."

Such violations were most of all covered in the newscasts of the Public Radio of Armenia (PRA). Thus, one of the reports of "Radiolur" newscast of PRA (April 28, 2007) quoted people complaining they were induced to go to rallies, teachers said that they are compelled to bring their students with them. On May 4 "Radiolur" informed the trade stalls at Malatia market were closed to induce the vendors to be present at the pre-election meeting with the RPA leader Serge Sargsian, the print media reported this incident one day later. On May 10 "Radiolur" reported that during a meeting in Garni the leader of "Prosperous Armenia" Gagik Tsarukian promised different assistance to those present.

Similar violations were twice referred to by TV 5 company in its newscasts, but both times they were mentioned by candidates for seats at the Parliament.

On May 10 the media disseminated the communication of the RA General Prosecutor's Office on the election bribery cases in Hrazdan and institution of criminal proceedings on them.

## **3. FACTS OF OBSTRUCTING PRE-ELECTION PROMOTION**

*The reports of the organizations list around 40 cases of such violations. The newscasts studied mentioned 12.*

The first two such violations and their coverage in media has been discussed above (the explosions at the pre-election headquarters of the "prosperous Armenia and the arson of the pre-election headquarters of the majority candidate Susanna Harutiunian).

Another resonant example, recorded in the report of "It's Your Choice" NGO, is quoted below:

"The meeting of a candidate of 24th electoral territory Khoren Sargsian with the voters of Zolakar village of Gegharkunik region was impeded by the head of the same community Arman Ghazarian. As a result of the skirmish 4 people received corporal injuries".

This incident was reported on April 26 by “Radiolur” program of PRA and “Horizon” newscast of “Shant” TV company.

On April 26 “Zham” newscast of “Armenia” TV company informed that during the promotional campaign of People’s Party of Armenia in Martuni the power supply at the hall was cut off.

According to the report of “Heritage” party, “On April 20 in Avan district (Yerevan - *Ed. Note*) four strangers, having gone out of a BMW 520 car with a state number plates of 02 OU 909 approached the students, engaged in promotion, and by force took from them about 300 leaflets of “Heritage” party. On the incident a police record was made and investigation was started. The volunteers of “Heritage” made testimony, confirming the fact of offence. The Prosecutor’s Office did not launch the case - due to absence of corpus delicti”.

This incident has not been covered in the newscasts studied.

HCA Vanadzor Office recorded two facts of intimidating a majority candidate Larisa Paremuzian of electoral territory 31:

“On April 27 about 15 people attacked her headquarters.

On May 1 after a pre-election meeting of Larisa Paremuzian in Gugark village her car was blocked by a BMW with 08 OL 535 number plates. The passengers approached Larisa Paremuzian, introduced themselves as the sons of her acquaintances and invited her to a dinner party. When Larisa Paremuzian refused the invitation, one of the men snatched her by the arm and tried to put into the car by force. These people announced that Larisa Paremuzian spoke badly of their “brothers”, and demanded that she leave Gugark village (...) At 21.30 Larisa Paremuzian reported the incident to the Department of National Security and then - to the Lori Department of Police. Due to the efforts of the Police the BMW with 08 OL 535 number plate and the young men were found. One of them, Vardges Mikichian was found to be a member of the guard staff of Vanadzor Police, and the other, Vahe Mikichian - an electrician”.

These incidents were not covered in the newscasts of the broadcast media studied.

On April 18 “Haylur” newscast of the First Channel of the Public Television of Armenia addressed the statements of “Orinats Yerkir” Party about being not provided a hall. However, the program covered not the facts but the comment made on the case by the Central Election Commission.

#### **4. DISPROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION OF POLITICAL FORCES IN THE ELECTION COMMISSIONS**

*The reports of the organizations list around 20 cases of such violations. The newscasts studied mentioned none of them.*

The facts about this problem are reflected in reports of “It’s Your Choice” NGO and the OSCE/ODIHR Election Observation Mission.

The report of “It’s Your Choice” NGO of May 8 notes:

“The governing bodies of the electoral commissions are formed disproportionately, the forces are unequally distributed everywhere. The Chairmen, the Vice-Chairmen and Secretaries of the 41 Territorial Electoral Commission are, with a small exception, the representatives of RPA, ARFD and the President of the country. In the TECs RPA has 43 representatives (holding positions of chairmen in 13 TEC, of vice-chairmen in 12 and of secretaries in 8); ARFD has 32 representatives (holding positions of chairmen in 12 TECs, of vice-chairmen in 10 and of secretaries in another 10 TECs); the RA President has 31 representatives (holding positions of chairmen in 11 TECs, of vice-chairmen in 9 and of secretaries in 11).”

The statement of OSCE/ODIHR EOM notes:

“However, the TEC leadership “troikas” (chairperson, deputy chairperson and secretary), although elected by the TEC, were dominated by the representatives of the Republican Party, ARF Dashnaktsutiun and appointees of the President. This challenges the spirit of balanced composition as intended by Election Code provisions. In two TECs, members acknowledged that the Orinats Yerkir-appointed member had been removed from the TEC troika because that party was now in opposition. Influence of local self-government bodies over the work of TEC 17 (Artashat) and TEC 19 (Yeghegnadzor) appeared to breach the provisions for independence stated in the Election Code.”

The broadcast media did not address this issue in the news programs studied.

## **5. SHORTCOMING IN THE ELECTORAL LISTS**

*The reports of the organizations list over 30 cases of such violations. The newscasts studied mentioned 3.*

The mistakes and omissions in the electoral lists are described in the reports of “It's Your Choice” NGO and HCA Vanadzor Office.

An example is quoted from each of the reports.

“The numerous residents of 13A, Aghayan street were listed as residents of 13 Aghayan street, which does not exist as demolished. For example, some members of Julietta Nalbandian's family are listed as residents of 13, Aghayan street, others - as residents of 13A, Aghayan street. No attention has been paid to the signal of the residents to the communal administration. Tamara Karakashian on the same list had sold her flat and left Armenia. The same is true for Valentina Magdezian and Artem Sahakian on the same list”. *(From the report of “It's Your Choice” NGO)*

“In the villages of Haghpats and Odzun the number of voters made 505, of whom 23 have left the villages ten years ago and 200 have not as yet changed their Soviet passports that one cannot vote with” *(From the report of HCA Vanadzor Office).*

This issue was raised by the newscasts of the broadcast media studied only when clarifications were made by the Department of Passports and Visas of the RA Police.

For example, the representative of “Dashnaktsutiun” party Hrayr Karapetian, running by majority system in the 4 electoral territory informed that the names of 911 citizens are duplicated in the electoral lists. The newscasts of the broadcast media studied did not mention the signal of the candidate itself, having only disseminated the Communication of the Information Division of the RA Police of May 5 to the effect that “thorough checkups revealed these citizens were different persons”.