

**Programmatic Cooperation Framework for
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus**



EU/CoE Joint Project
Promote Professional and Responsible Journalism
by Supporting Regional Network of Self-Regulatory Bodies

**MONITORING OF ARMENIAN BROADCAST MEDIA
COVERAGE OF ELECTIONS TO
RA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON APRIL 2, 2017**



YEREVAN PRESS CLUB

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RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS TO RA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON APRIL 2, 2017

On April 2, 2017, five parties and four blocs took part in the elections to the RA National Assembly by national electoral lists.

On April 9, 2017, RA Central Electoral Commission announced the final voting results of the elections to the National Assembly. The votes cast for the parties/blocs were distributed in the following way (*in percentage*):

	Party/Bloc	%
1.	Republican Party of Armenia	49.15
2.	Tsarukyan bloc	27.36
3.	“Way Out” bloc	7.79
4.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party	6.57
5.	“Armenian Renaissance” party	3.72
6.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc	2.07
7.	Congress-PPA parties bloc	1.65
8.	“Free Democrats” party	0.94
9.	Communist Party of Armenia	0.75

Thus, two parties and two blocs, which overcame the 5 and 7 percent threshold respectively, were elected to Armenian parliament. The 105 parliamentary mandates were distributed as follows:

- Republican Party of Armenia - 58 mandates
- Tsarukyan bloc - 31 mandates
- “Way Out” bloc - 9 mandates
- Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party - 7 mandates.

KEY CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

BASED ON THE MONITORING OF COVERAGE OF 2017 PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

1. Balance of Coverage. During the period of pre-election promotion the attention of the studied TV channels to parties/blocs, participating in the parliamentary elections, was relatively balanced. Especially, in the beginning of the official pre-election promotion, when campaign events were not abundant, the broadcasters were striving to keep the balance by preparing reports and interviews on their own initiative. At the same time, the period preceding the pre-election promotion was noted for a sharp contrast in the intensity of coverage of certain participants of the electoral race. The absence of clear legal regulation and monitoring on the part of the National Commission on Television and Radio in the run-up to the elections severely restricts the opportunities for political parties to inform citizens about themselves and their programmes. Many voters make their choice long before the beginning of the official pre-election promotion, which in 2017 was limited to 27 days only. Therefore we must once again stress the necessity of regulating and monitoring, as well as of ensuring political pluralism on Armenian television during a more lengthy timeframe than the short period of less than four weeks of pre-election promotion.

2. Connotationality of Coverage. The relative balance of quantitative indicators did not spread to the nature of coverage of parties/blocs. Moreover, compared to the previous cycle of national elections, the share of connotation references rose: in 2012 parliamentary elections it was 3.5% of the aggregate number of references of all the studied channels, in 2013 presidential elections it was 2.2%, in the course of the current campaign - 6.8%. This shows a certain political bias and allows to talk about a relative deficit of neutrality in the coverage of the campaign, especially on certain TV channels.

3. Coverage of “Territorial Candidates”. During the campaign our attention was attracted by the lack of equal conditions for those candidates who were running for parliamentary seats on the basis of territorial lists. Though monitoring of coverage of these candidates was not among the goals of the current study, it was obvious that the broadcasters had a selective approach to such candidates in terms of their access to TV. Such selective approach could have had direct influence on the results of the elections by territorial lists and indirect influence on general elections results.

4. Coverage of Officials. As in the past, the coverage of officials, presumably during the performance of their official duties, remains an unsolved problem of pre-election TV air in Armenia. Often a respective TV piece is presented as coverage of official duties, while the official is shown with campaign symbols of a certain party/bloc in the background. This ignores the principle of undesirability of frequent public appearance of campaigning politicians in the capacity of officials.

5. Representation of Political Forces in Discussion Programmes. As a whole, the studied TV channels tried to reflect the diversity of participants of the electoral race, inviting them to programmes of “guest in studio”/talk show/interview format. However, the participation of experts, civil society representatives, who were not direct actors of the electoral struggle, was very rare, especially during the official pre-election promotion. This circumstance led to a deficit of analysis, comments regarding the electoral process, pre-

election programmes of its participants, which was pointed out many times by a number of observers as a factor, hindering the full-fledged orientation of electorate prior to the vote.

6. Absence of Political Debates on TV. Another serious remaining drawback is the lack of readiness of Armenian politicians for debates, open discussions on air. Repeated invitations by the Public TV and Radio Company did not find a response among the majority of participants of the electoral race. This traditional problem of the elections practice in Armenia makes urgent the suggestion, put forward by Yerevan Press Club earlier, to make participation in the debates a legal requirement, as a condition necessary for raising the culture of public politics in Armenia.

7. Violations of Ethical Norms on the Level of Statements/Video Episodes. The deficit of regulation mechanisms for political competition outside of the official pre-election promotion was also reflected in the frequency of breaches of ethical norms: during the two studied weeks preceding the official campaign, breaches of ethics were more common than during the official pre-election promotion. In the majority of cases the sources of unethical statements were not the authors of pieces/programme hosts, but other individuals, which, to a certain extent, relieves the media from responsibility. However, in certain circumstances, media/journalist cannot be considered as a passive, unbiased side, even if they are not the direct distributors of the content breaching ethical principles.

8. Violations of Ethical Norms on the Level of a Piece as a Whole. One of the most frequent violations was the use by broadcasters of the same footage of electoral events, though with a different length. Meanwhile, editorial coverage should be different in principle from the promotion materials, provided as political promotion by the parties/blocs. The TV viewer can expect the media coverage that has been produced by the media itself rather than an interpretation produced by someone else, e.g., by the party/bloc itself or another broadcaster. Taking into account the limited resources of Armenian broadcasters, to eliminate such “barter” would have been an unjustifiably maximalist approach. At the same time we would like to recommend to the TV channels, first, to observe the principle of equal opportunities for all participants of the pre-election race, second, to pay more attention to the neutrality of the pieces, and third, to provide references to the real authors of the footage and texts, in case they have been borrowed.

9. Use of Children in Pre-Election Promotion. In the course of the official pre-election promotion we recorded 70 pieces, in which children were present as participants of the campaign events of parties/blocs. This is contrary to all international standards of political struggle. In many cases the broadcasters cannot exclude episodes with participation of children from a report on a campaign event, without harming the coverage. Therefore, the responsibility for this violation lies, first and foremost, with the parties/blocs themselves.

The overcoming of ethical issues is conditioned by necessity of enhancement of efficiency of media self-regulation system, as well as the culture of public politics in general.

REPORT ON MONITORING OF ARMENIAN BROADCAST MEDIA COVERAGE OF ELECTIONS TO RA NATIONAL ASSEMBLY IN 2017

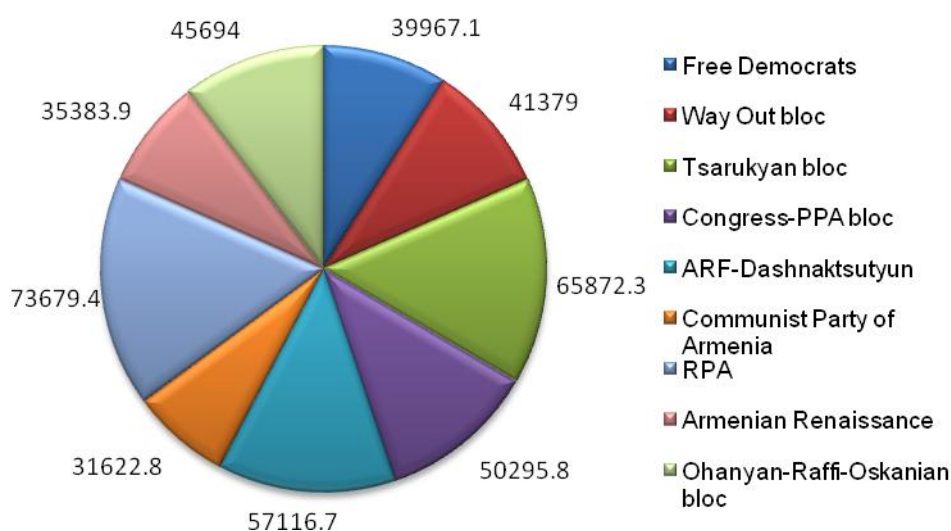
PRE-ELECTION PROMOTION (MARCH 5-31, 2017) AND THE PERIOD PRECEDING IT (FEBRUARY 15 - MARCH 4, 2017)

ACCORDING TO THE CUMULATIVE DATA of the five studied TV channels during the pre-election promotion (**March 5-31**) it can be spoken about a relatively balanced attention of the broadcasters towards parties/blocs running in the parliamentary elections. Though, both in terms of frequency of references and the airtime volume, leadership belonged to the Republican Party of Armenia (RPA) and Tsarukyan bloc, at the same time even the Communist Party of Armenia, which occupied the last place and was not noted for active campaigning, had comparable indicators to them. Moreover, it has to be stressed that on those days, when certain parties/blocs did not have campaign events, TV channels, especially in the first weeks of the pre-election promotion, tried to secure balance using reports and interviews, produced on their own initiative.

CHART 1. Distribution of Airtime Among Parties/Blocs, Running in the Parliamentary Elections, During Pre-Election Promotion

March 5-31, 2017

PTA First Channel, "Armenia", "Yerkir Media", "Kentron", "Shant"

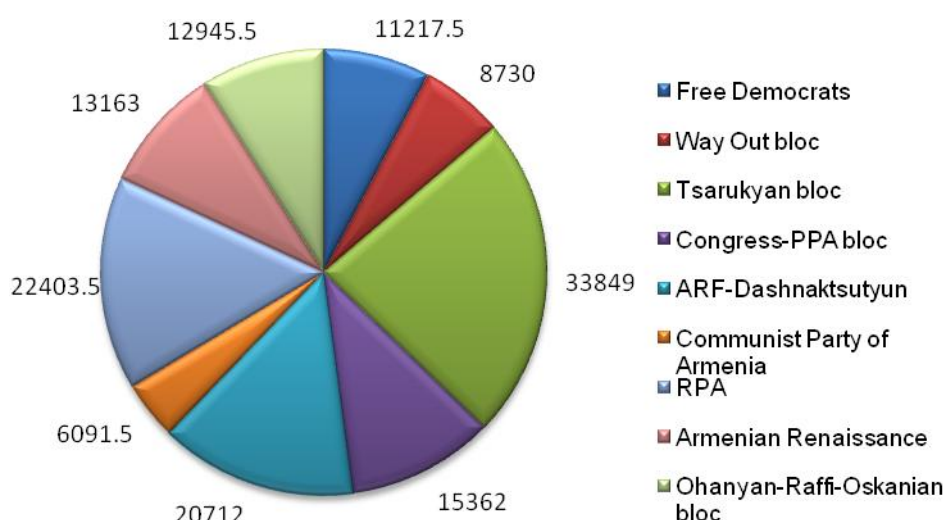


In this sense, this period significantly differed from the two weeks preceding it (**February 15 - March 4**), when, in the absence of clear legal regulation and without monitoring by the National Commission on Television and Radio, the balance, on the whole, was not respected. Both in terms of frequency of references and the airtime allocated to them, the gap between the most and the least covered parties/blocs was roughly 5 to 1.

CHART 2. Distribution of Airtime Among Parties/Blocs, Running in the Parliamentary Elections, Ahead of Pre-Election Promotion

February 15 - March 4, 2017

PTA First Channel, “Armenia”, “Yerkir Media”, “Kentron”, “Shant”



Meanwhile, it is obvious that many voters make their choice between parties/blocs long before the beginning of the official pre-election promotion, which in 2017 was limited to 27 days only. Outside that period, the absence of legal guarantees that would allow the political parties to inform citizens about themselves and their programmes means that the conditions for carrying out electoral campaigns cannot be considered equal. Hence we have to underline once again how important it is to ensure political pluralism on Armenian television for a longer period.

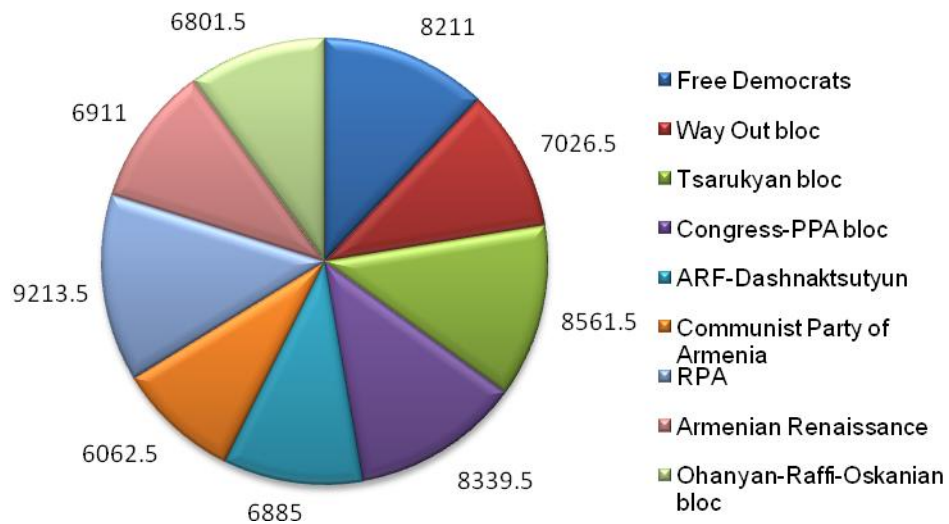
Besides, while in terms of frequency of references parties/blocs during **the period of pre-election promotion** had rather comparable results on all the TV channels, in terms of airtime volume the indicators considerably varied.

The smallest gap was recorded on **First Channel of Public Television of Armenia** (PTA), where Republican Party of Armenia, the “leader” in terms of airtime, surpassed 1.5 times Communist Party of Armenia, holding the last place in terms of this indicator.

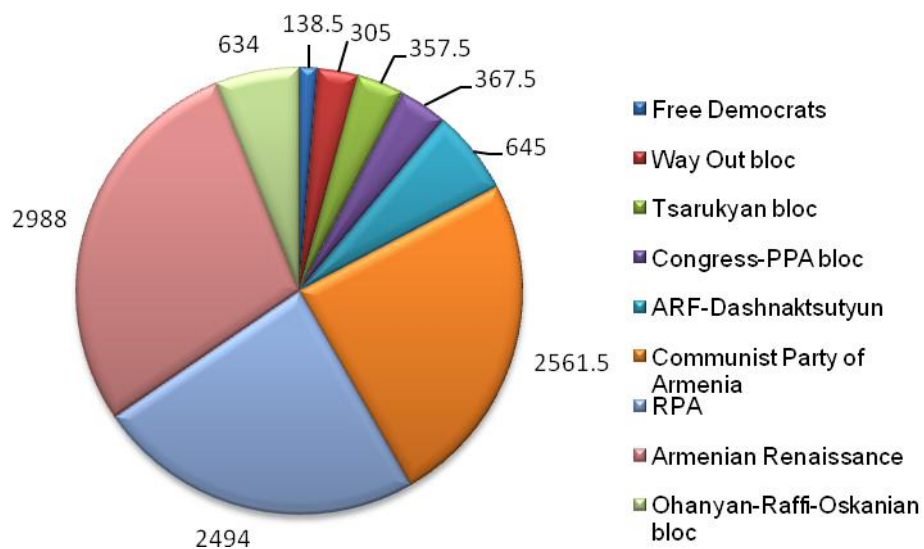
The largest gap was recorded on “**Armenia**”, where RPA received more than 6.5 times more airtime, than “Free Democrats” party. Even Tsarukyan bloc, which was the second in terms of that indicator, was surpassed two times by RPA on that TV channel. Moreover, the imbalance in general on “**Armenia**” emerged mainly during the last week of the pre-election promotion.

PTA First Channel

March 5-31, 2017

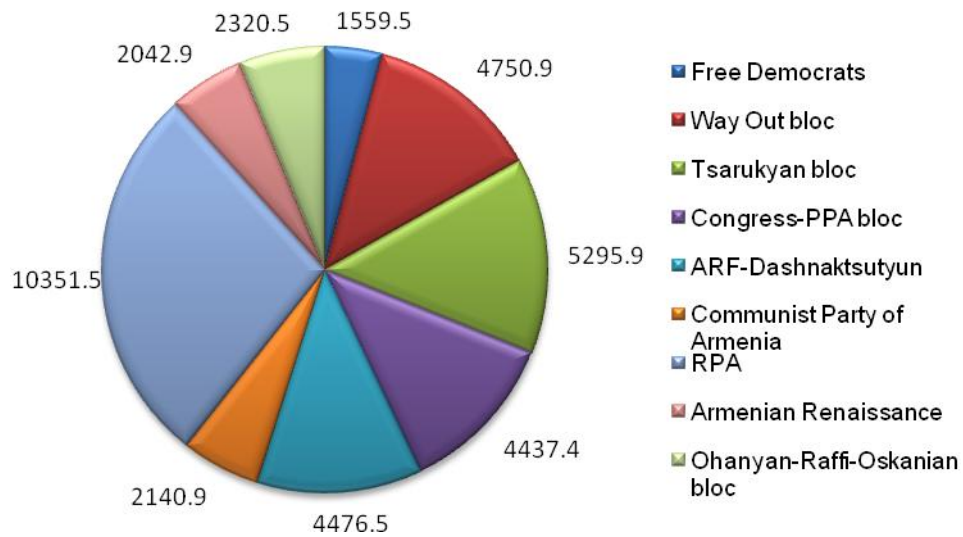


February 15 - March 4, 2017

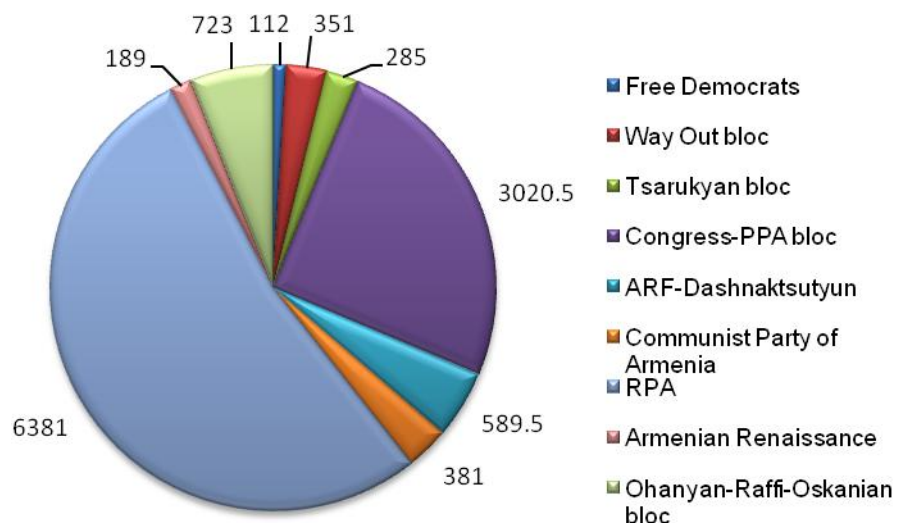


“Armenia”

March 5-31, 2017

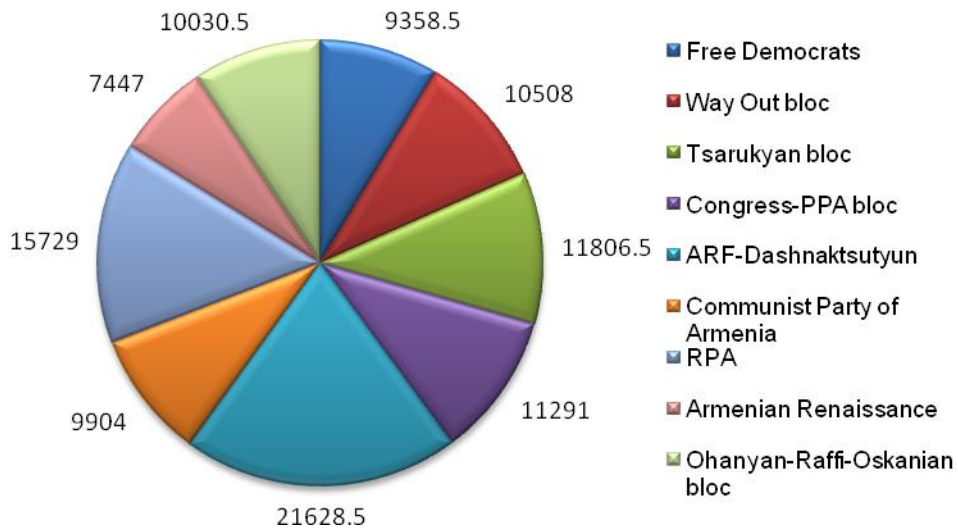


February 15 - March 4, 2017

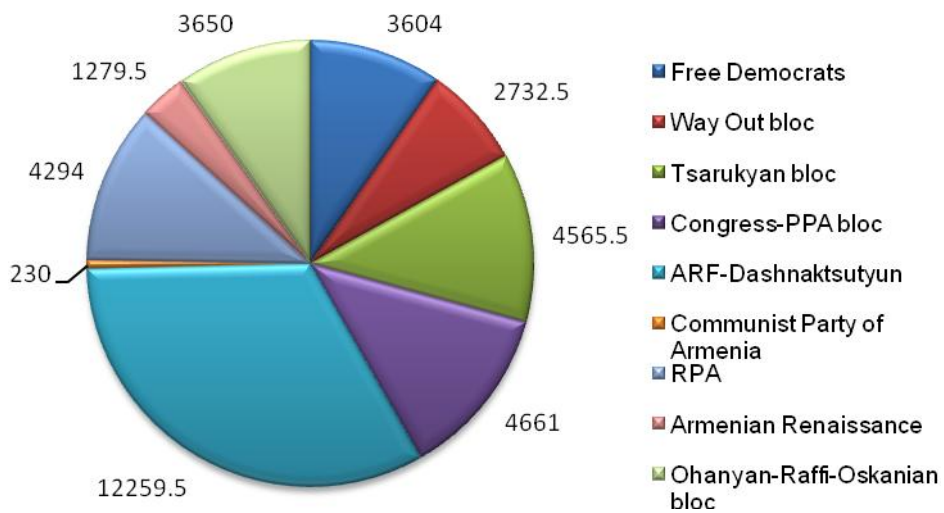


“Yerkir Media”

March 5-31, 2017

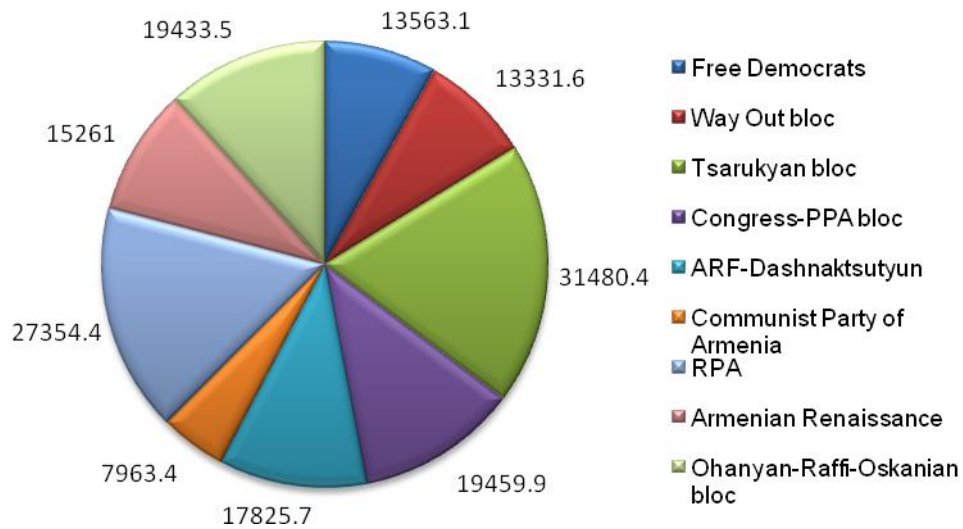


February 15 - March 4, 2017

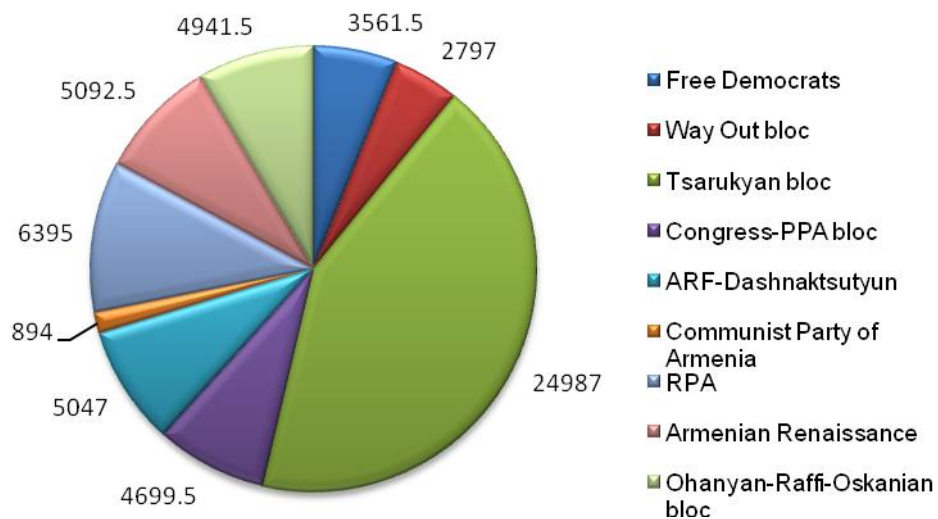


“Kentron”

March 5-31, 2017

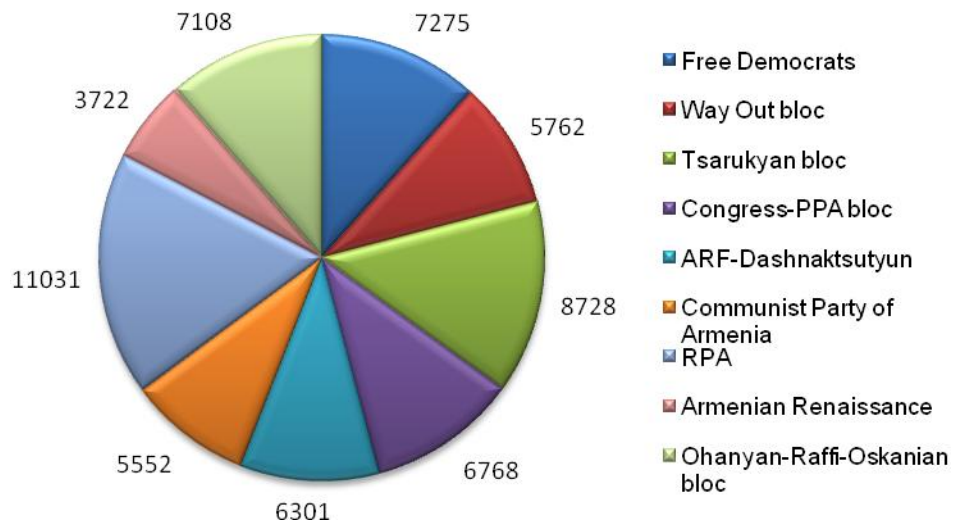


February 15 - March 4, 2017

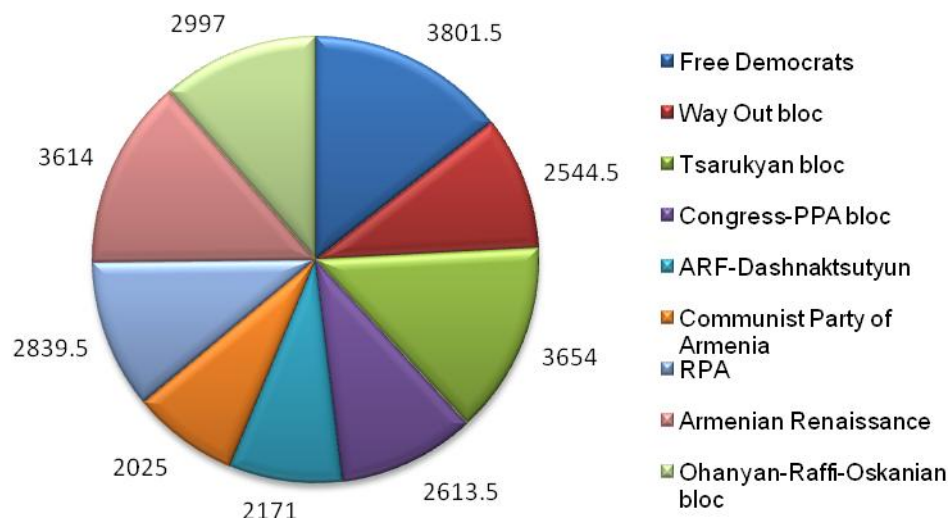


“Shant”

March 5-31, 2017



February 15 - March 4, 2017

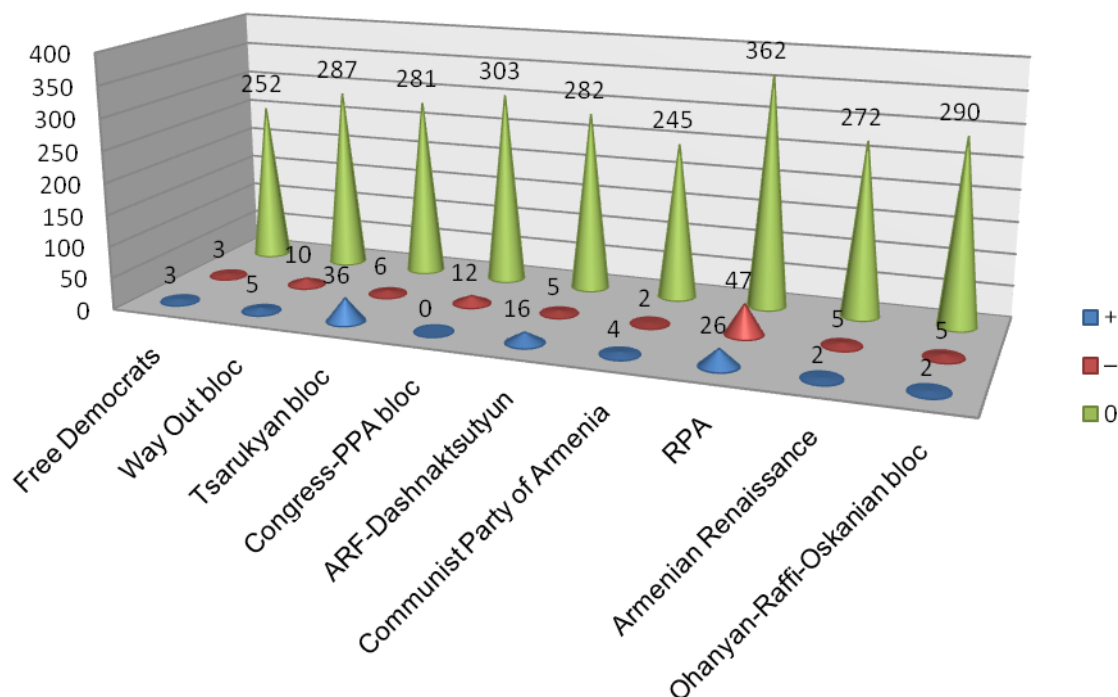


THE NATURE OF COVERAGE OF PARTIES/BLOCS was not so balanced, as in the case of such cumulative data of the studied TV channels as frequency of references and airtime volume. During *the period of pre-election promotion* the opposite picture was recorded in the ratio of positive and negative references to RPA and Tsarukyan bloc: respectively, 26:47 (minus 21) and 36:6 (plus 30). Moreover, the biggest “contribution” to that difference was brought by “**Kentron**” TV channel, where RPA received 2 positive and 22 negative references, and Tsarukyan bloc - 24 positive and zero negative references. A situation with connotation references to parties/blocs, similar to that on “Kentron”, was recorded on “**Yerkir Media**” TV channel, where RPA had zero positive and 19 negative references, while ARF-Dashnaktsutyun - 12 positive and 1 negative references. It is noteworthy that on **PTA First Channel** Republican Party of Armenia, on the contrary, received the most favourable coverage out of all the parties/blocs running in the elections: 15 positive and 2 negative references. The other two studied TV channels, “**Shant**” and “**Armenia**”, sought to avoid connotatively coloured coverage of parties/blocs. “**Shant**” made a certain “exception” for RPA, which was discussed in a positive context 6 times and 4 times in negative context. All together 3 positive (all to RPA) and no negative references to parties/blocs were recorded on “**Armenia**”.

CHART 3. Nature of References of the Studied Broadcasters to Parties/Blocs, Running in the Parliamentary Elections, During Pre-Election Promotion

March 5-31, 2017

PTA First Channel, “Armenia”, “Yerkir Media”, “Kentron”, “Shant”

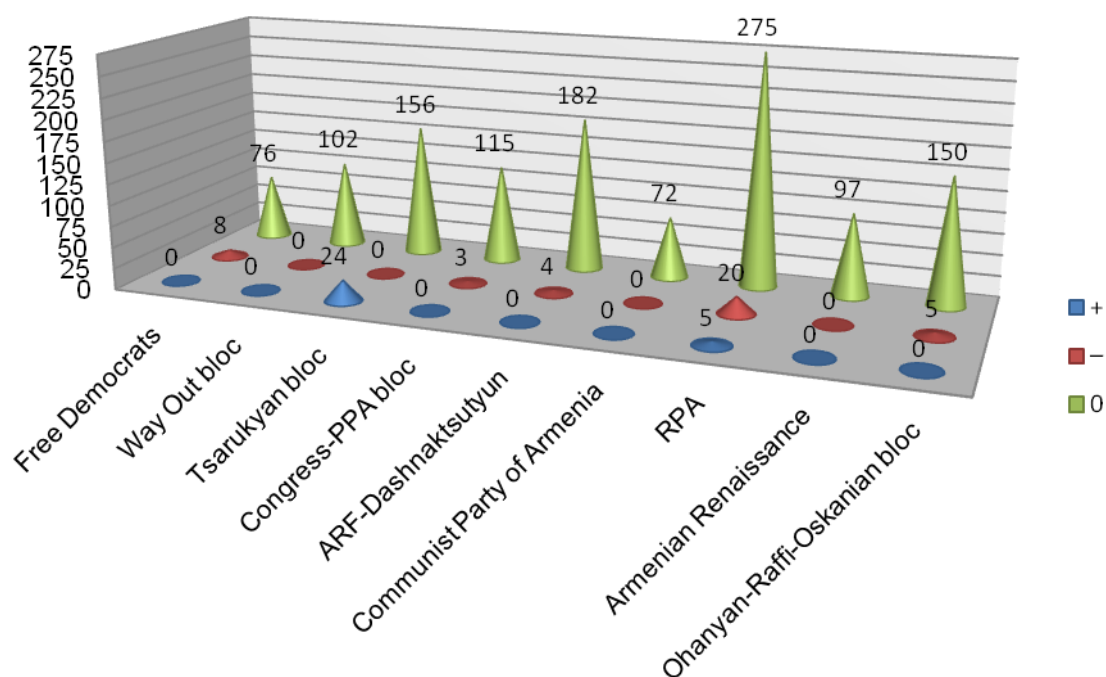


A roughly similar picture in terms of connotation references was observed during *the period preceding the official pre-election promotion*, which indicates a certain political bias of some TV channels.

CHART 4. Nature of References of the Studied Broadcasters to Parties/Blocs, Running in the Parliamentary Elections, Ahead of Pre-Election Promotion

February 15 - March 4, 2017

PTA First Channel, "Armenia", "Yerkir Media", "Kentron", "Shant"

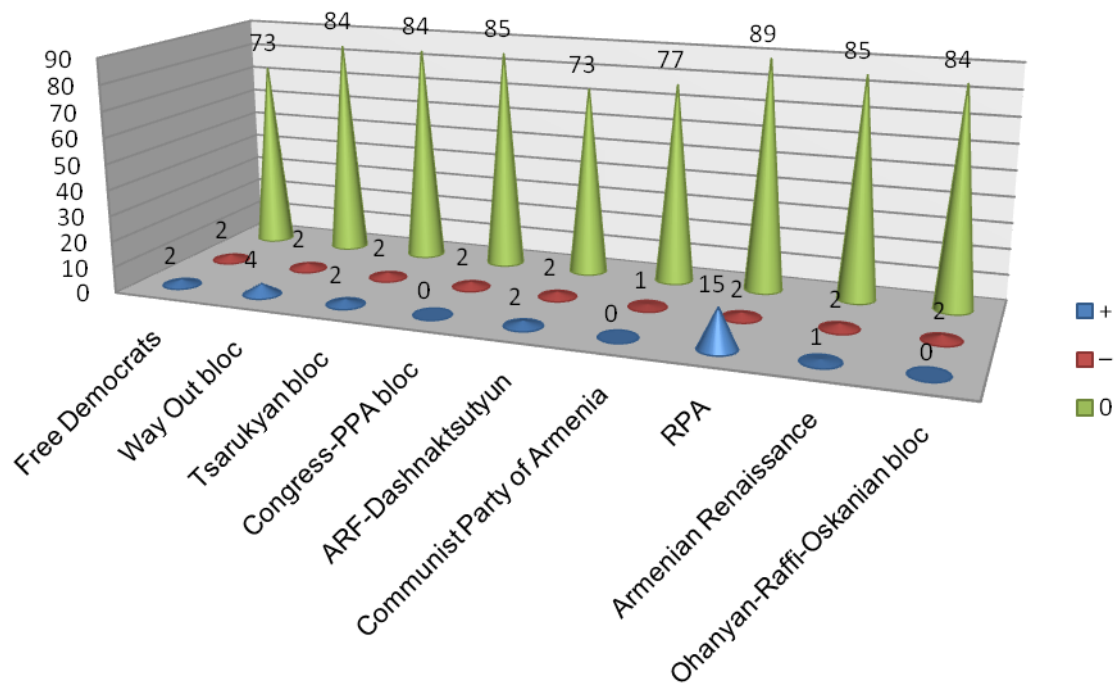


The share of connotation references, increased on TV channels in comparison to the previous cycle of national elections, merits attention: during the 2012 parliamentary elections it was 3.5% of the aggregate number of references of all the studied channels, during the 2013 presidential elections - 2.2%, and in the course of the current pre-election promotion - 6.8%. Of course, this number (first of all negative references) to a large extent was formed through the statements of representatives of parties/blocs about each other, but at the same time the choice of these statements by the broadcasters can also be a sign of bias and it allows speaking about a certain lack of neutrality of coverage of the campaign. In other words, mechanical count of seconds or minutes, allocated to political rivals, is not the only factor determining the degree to which the coverage is balanced.

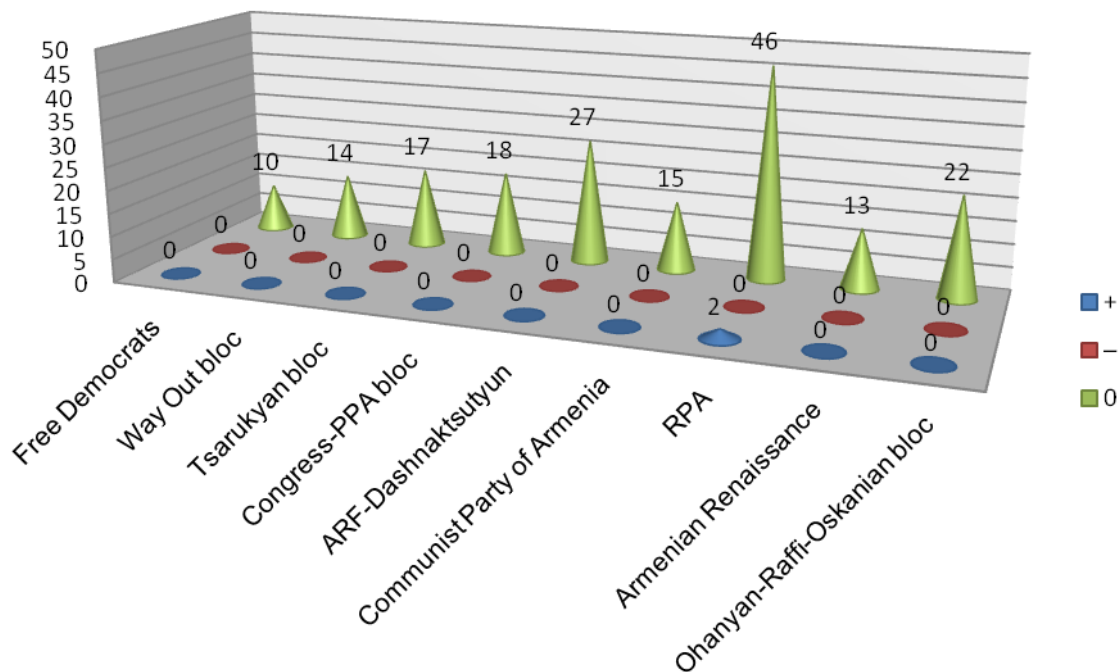
Having compared, on the one hand, the share of connotation references, as well as the ratio of these references in positive and negative contexts, and on the other hand, the volume of airtime allocated to a political force, we can make certain conclusions regarding how favorably a party/bloc was covered by specific broadcasters. In this sense, for example, the seconds allocated to Tsarukyan bloc, particularly on "Kentron" TV channel, contributed to its positive perception by the audience significantly more than was the case with the seconds allocated to RPA.

PTA First Channel

March 5-31, 2017

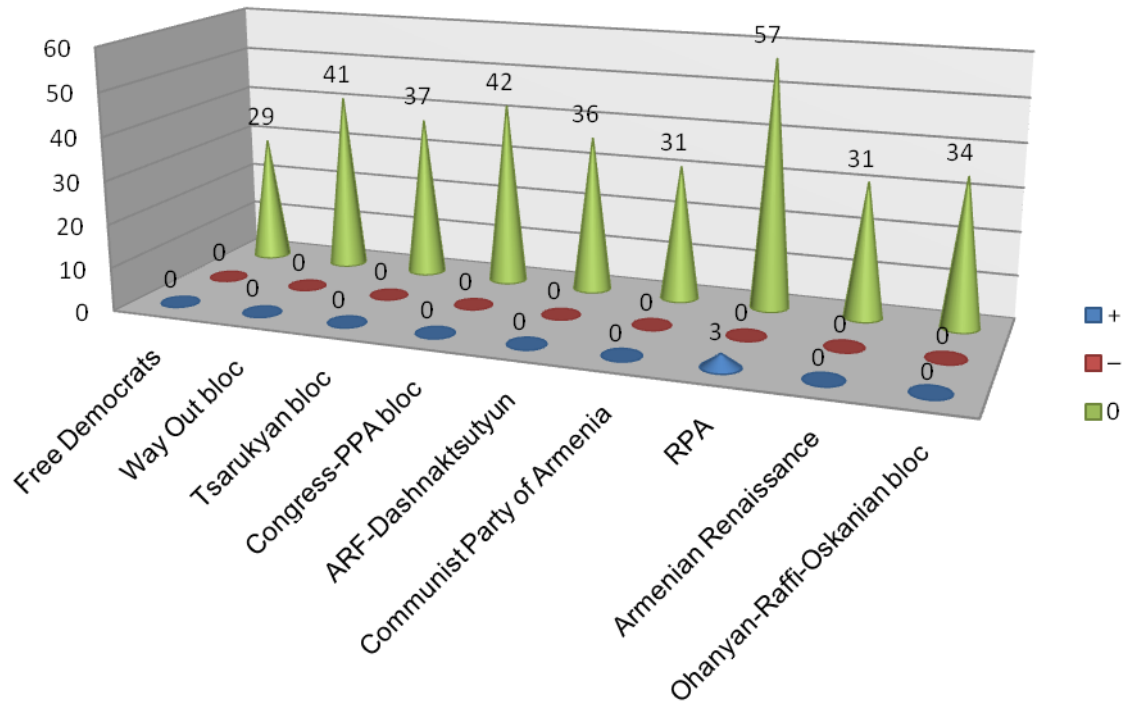


February 15 - March 4, 2017

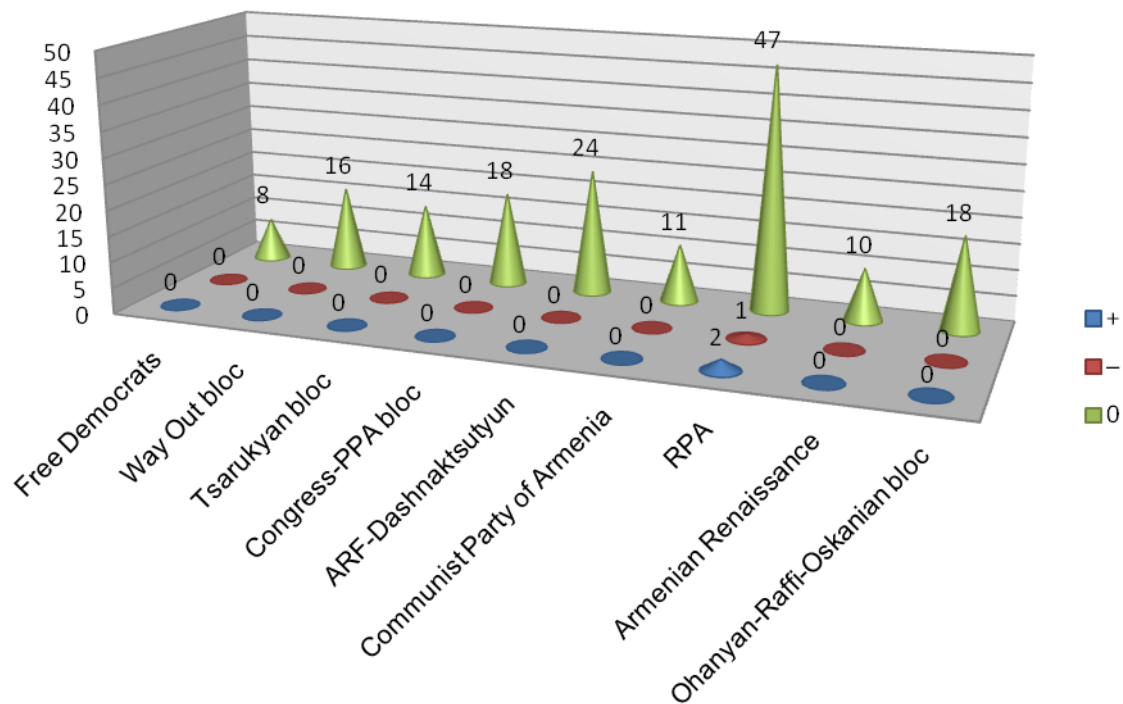


“Armenia”

March 5-31, 2017

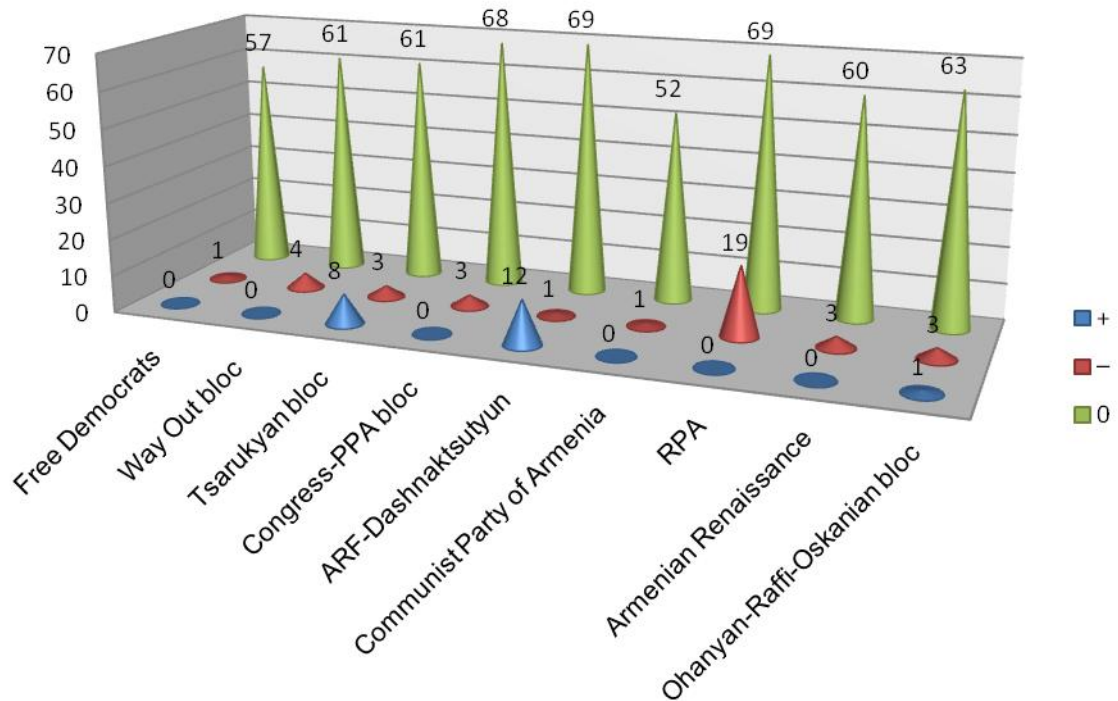


February 15 - March 4, 2017

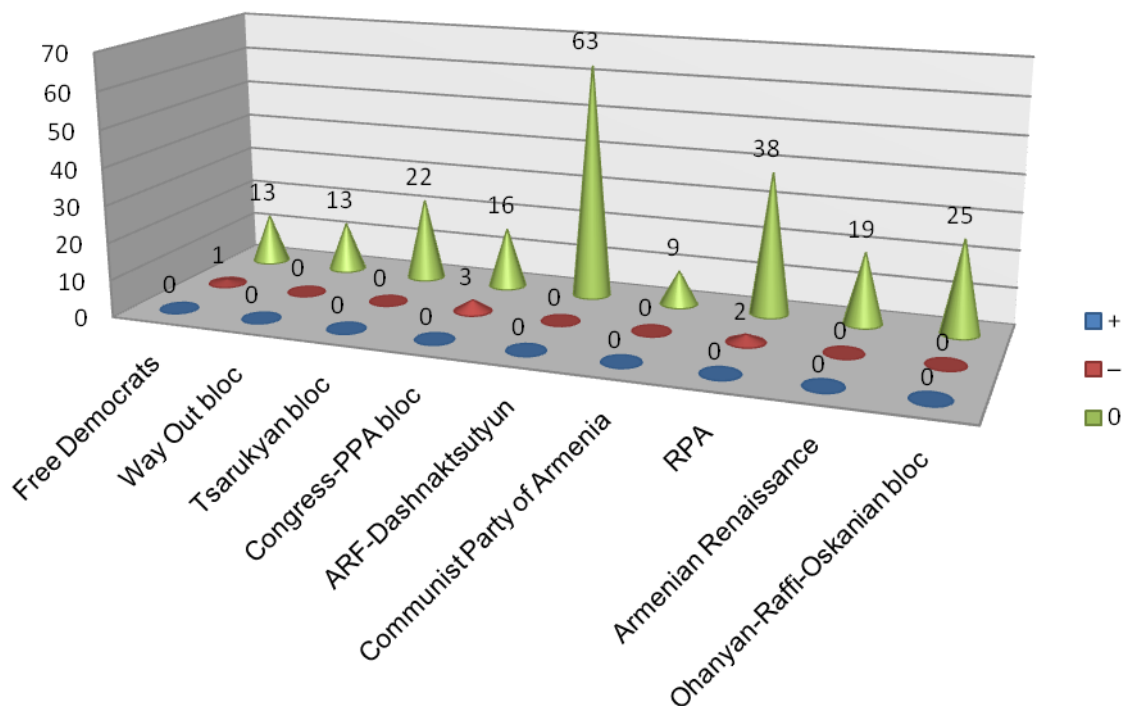


“Yerkir Media”

March 5-31, 2017

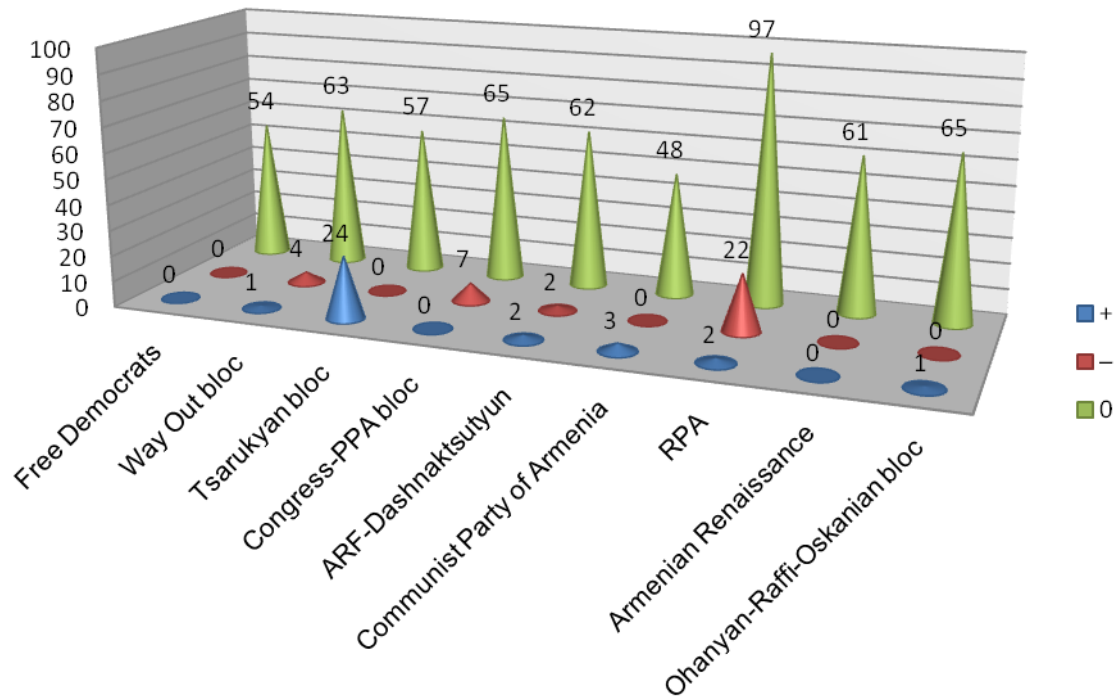


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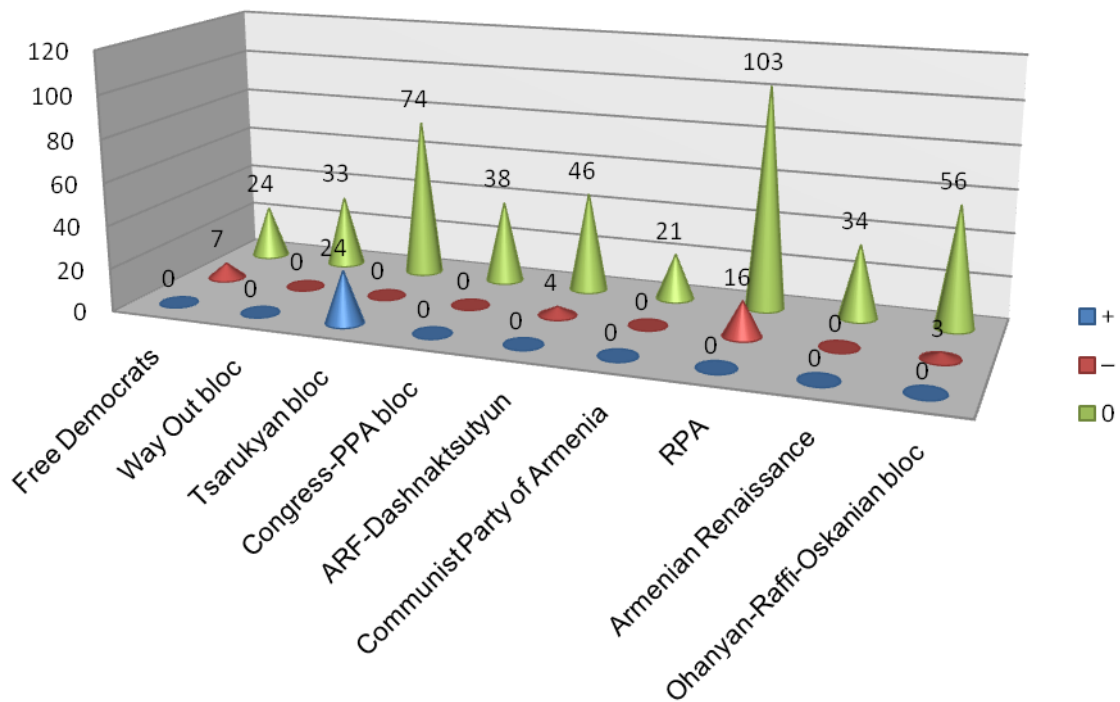


“Kentron”

March 5-31, 2017

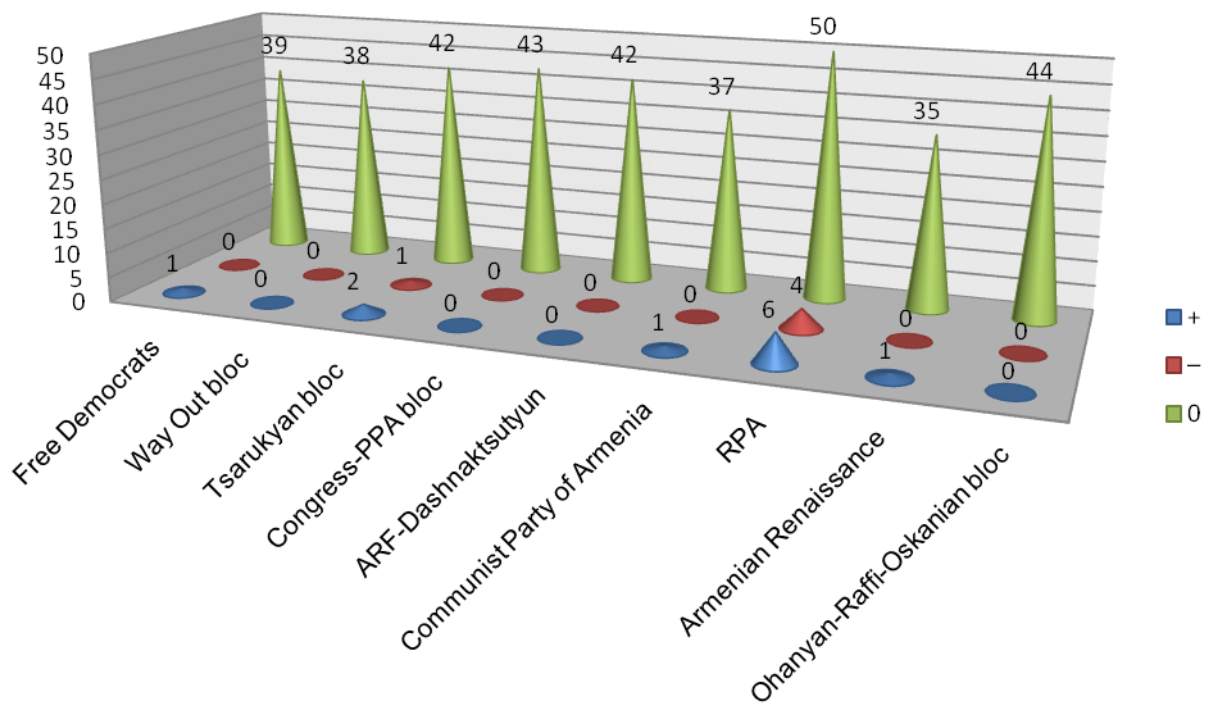


February 15 - March 4, 2017

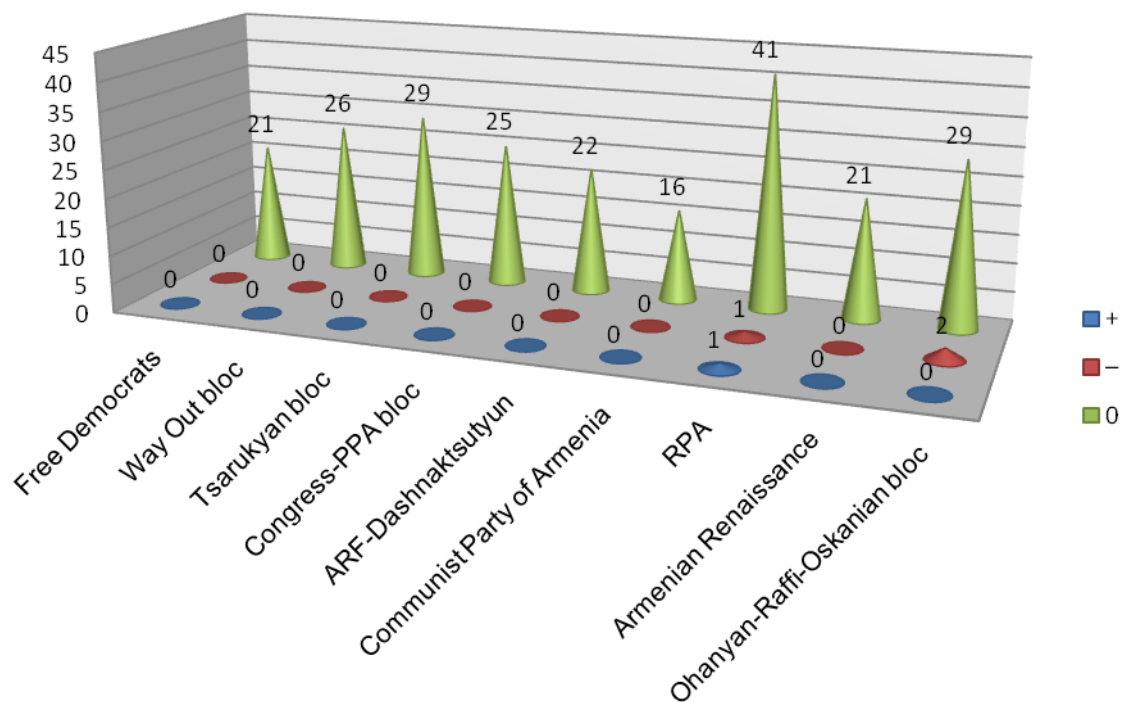


“Shant”

March 5-31, 2017



February 15 - March 4, 2017



ANOTHER PRINCIPAL ISSUE, recorded in the course of the current electoral campaign, was the lack of equal conditions for those candidates who were running for parliamentary seats on the basis of territorial lists. Though nominally Armenia has introduced a 100 percent proportional electoral system, “territorial candidates” were solving their individual electoral goals, therefore, when some of them received access to TV (both on the national and regional levels) and their competitors did not receive it, this was an obvious ground for criticism.

The monitoring carried out by Yerevan Press Club did not include among its goals quantitative measuring of the frequency of references to candidates running by territorial lists, or of the airtime they received. However, it was impossible to avoid mentioning this problem. It is quite possible that it could have had direct influence on the results of the elections by territorial lists and indirect influence on general elections results.

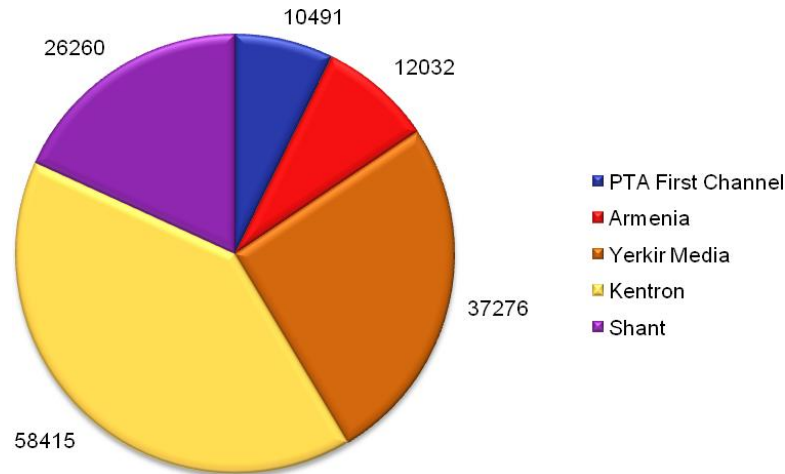
Another circumstance, which was not directly the subject of this study, but was widely criticized, became the absence of TV debates between the first persons of the party/bloc lists. Repeated invitations by the Public TV and Radio Company did not find a response among the majority of participants of the electoral race. This traditional problem of the elections practice in Armenia makes urgent the suggestion, put forward by Yerevan Press Club earlier, to make participation in the debates a legal requirement, as a condition necessary for raising the culture of public politics in Armenia.

Along with this, the issue of coverage of state officials, presumably during the performance of their official duties, remains an unsolved problem of pre-election TV air in Armenia. Most of all, this refers to Karen Karapetyan, RA Prime Minister and First Deputy Chairman of the Republican Party of Armenia, who was not included in the electoral list of the party, but carried the main burden of the party’s electoral campaign. The content of TV pieces featuring Karen Karapetyan often did not allow to determine whether this was coverage of an electoral promotion event or of the official activities of the head of the Government. In particular, the text of the piece told the viewer about a working visit of the Prime Minister, but RPA’s electoral campaign’s symbols appeared in the background. Here it is worth to remind once again that the frequent appearance of campaigning politicians in the capacity of officials is undesirable, even in case these politicians are not on the ballot themselves.

TALKING ABOUT INDIVIDUAL TV CHANNELS, we can note the leadership, which has become traditional, of “**Kentron**” and “**Yerkir Media**” in terms of intensity of elections coverage. These two channels, both during the pre-election promotion and the two weeks, preceding it, were ahead of all in terms of the airtime volume allocated to parties/blocs and their leaders/representatives. Moreover, in *the period February 15 - March 4*, “**Kentron**” was ahead of all others also in terms of frequency of references to participants of the elections. During the same period “**Shant**” was second in terms of frequency of references and third in terms of airtime. **PTA First Channel** and “**Armenia**” joined the elections coverage more or less actively only from *March 5* (the beginning of pre-election promotion), though parties/blocs had started campaigning at least two weeks before that.

CHART 5. Level of Attention of the Studied Broadcasters to the Election Campaign Ahead of Pre-Election Promotion (in airtime volume)

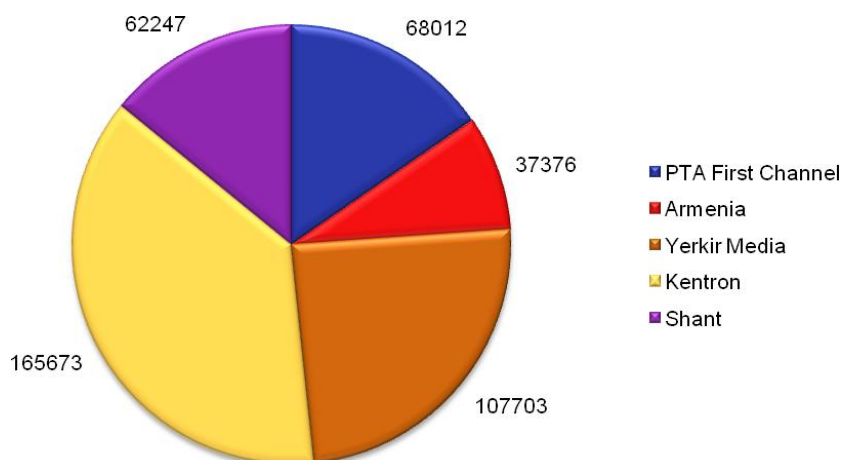
February 15 - March 4, 2017



During *the period of official pre-election promotion* the attitude of the studied channels to the elections changed to a certain extent. **PTA First Channel** was the third in terms of airtime, but was ahead of all channels in terms of frequency of references to parties/blocs, though in about one third of cases these were merely mentionings of parties/blocs (basically the appearance of their electoral campaign's symbols or leaders in the TV frame without any additional information). In terms of intensity of coverage the first three were followed by "**Shant**", and on the last place among the five studied broadcasters was "**Armenia**".

CHART 6. Level of Attention of the Studied Broadcasters to the Election Campaign During Pre-Election Promotion (in airtime volume)

March 5-31, 2017



THE RELATIVELY BALANCED COVERAGE of parties/blocs was reflected in such indicator as representation of political forces in the programmes of the format “guest-in-studio”/talk show/interview. The studied TV channels mainly tried to reflect the diversity of the participants of the electoral race. To some extent an exception was “**Kentron**”, in whose programmes on **March 5-31** the representatives of Tsarukyan bloc were invited 16 times (hereafter the repetitions of the same programmes in the studied evening TV air are also considered), followed by Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc (12) and ARF-Dashnaksutyun (9). The last on the list was Communist Party of Armenia, whose representatives were invited three times. The rest of the broadcasters had less difference in the frequency of participation of representatives of parties/blocs in the programmes of the format “guest-in-studio”/talk show/interview. During the official pre-election promotion the appearance of actors, who were not directly involved in the electoral race, i.e., experts and civil society representatives, in the programmes of such format was very rare. This circumstance led to lack of analysis, comments on the electoral process, pre-election programmes of its participants, which was pointed out many times by a number of observers as a factor, hindering the full-fledged orientation of electorate prior to the vote.

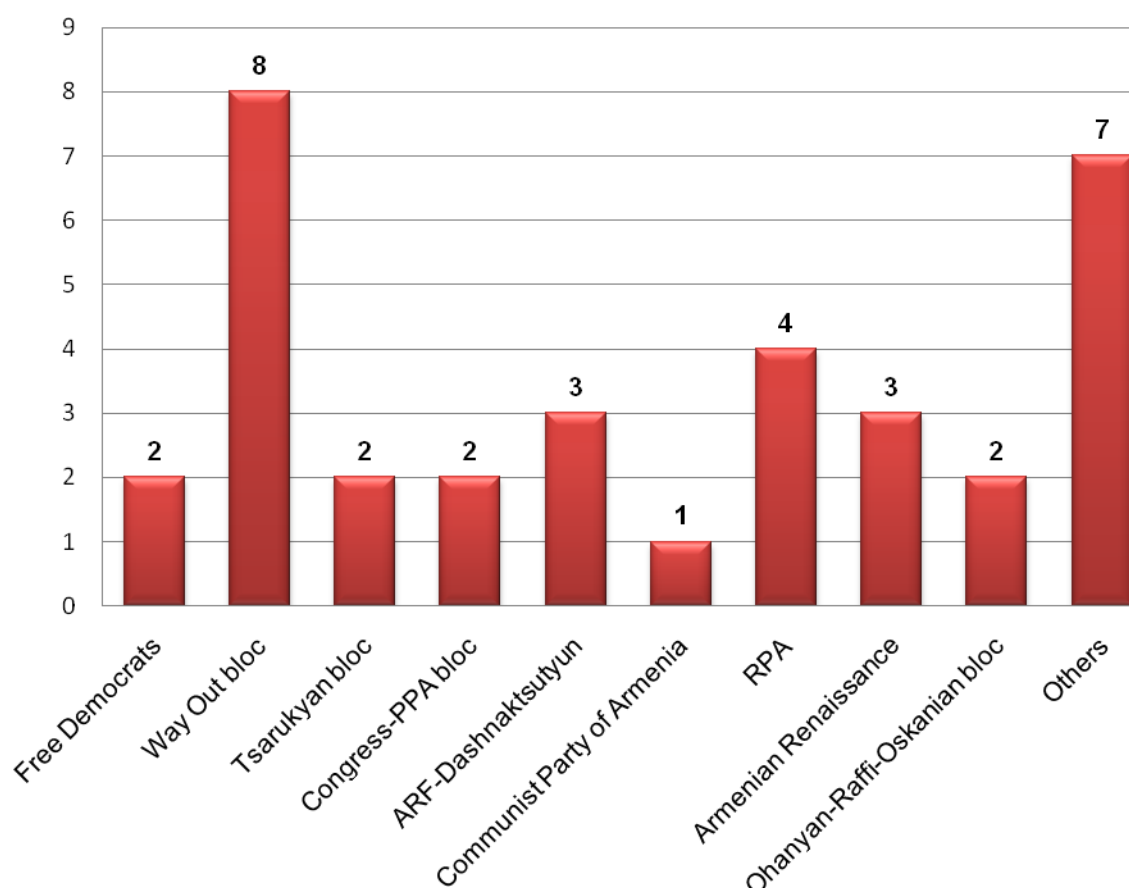
THROUGHOUT THE 27 DAYS OF OFFICIAL PRE-ELECTION PROMOTION 34 violations of ethical norms on the level of statements/video episodes were recorded on the five studied TV channels. The intensity of these violations significantly increased in the second half of the campaign. One of the factors, which conditioned this unfavorable quantitative dynamic, was the participation of RA First President and Congress-PPA parties bloc leader Levon Ter-Petrosyan in the **PTA First Channel** discussion programme “Orakargits Durs”/“Beyond the Agenda” on March 21, 2017, as well as in “**Kentron**” discussion programme “Urvagits”/“Circuit” on March 28, 2017 (issued at 22.35 and repeated on March 30, 2017 at 23.55). In the programmes the guest voiced statements, which were insulting in their harshness, regarding all competitors, except RPA. The ratio of connotation references to Congress-PPA bloc on the studied TV channels can be considered as some kind of response to Levon Ter-Petrosyan: 12 negative and zero positive references. In most of the cases these were feedbacks on the position of the bloc and its leader on Karabagh issue.

Another example, when the guests of the same programme made insulting statements that became the basis for recording several ethical violations, was “**Kentron**” programme “Urvagits” on March 20, 2017 (issued at 22.35) with the participation of representatives from Congress-PPA bloc, “Free Democrats” party and “Way Out” bloc.

In the above mentioned cases the broadcasters themselves, as a rule, cannot be held responsible for ethical violations. However, in case of the issues of “**Yerkir Media**” news and comment programme “Ditaketum”/“In the Center of Attention”, journalist’s condemning remarks (not addressed to a specific person) were voluntarily or involuntarily combined with video images of specific campaign participants, which allows us to consider this an ethnical violation on the part of the authors of the pieces.

CHART 7. Violations of Principles of Professional Ethics in Statements/Video Episodes About Parties/Blocs During Pre-Election Promotion

March 5-31, 2017



In general, throughout ***the pre-election promotion*** the majority of ethical violations on the level of statements/video episodes was recorded on three out of five studied channels: **“Yerkir Media”** - 13, **“Kentron”** - 12, **PTA First Channel** - 8. On **“Armenia”** there was one case, and there were no violations recorded on **“Shant”**.

Besides, quite typical were the violations of ethical norms on the level of a piece as a whole. One of the most frequent violations was the use of the same footage of electoral events on various TV channels (26 cases). In a number of cases, 4 out of 5 studied broadcasters used the same footage, though, with a different length. The essence of the issue is that editorial coverage should be different in principle from the promotion materials, provided as political promotion by the parties/blocs. The TV viewer can expect the media coverage that has been produced by the media itself rather than an interpretation produced by someone else, e.g., by the party/bloc itself or another broadcaster.

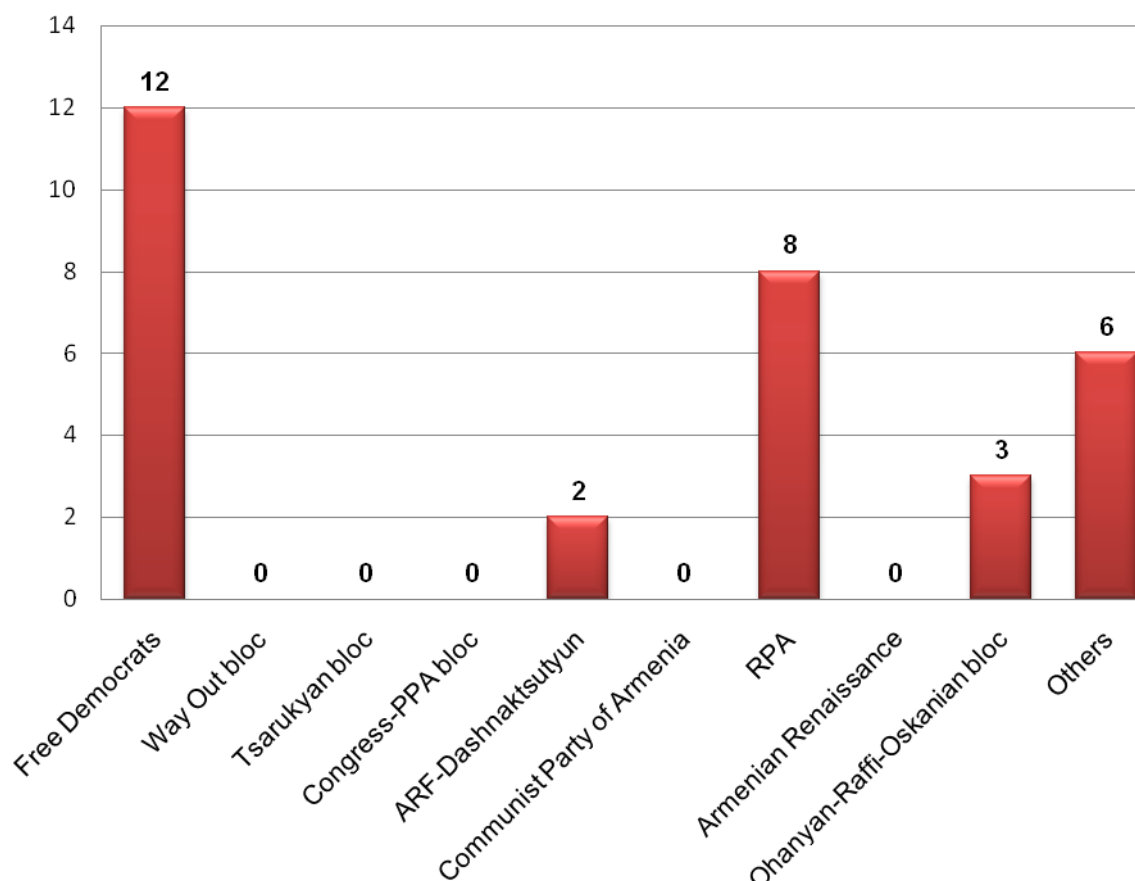
While during previous national elections behind this phenomenon we saw an opportunity for hidden political promotion (use of materials provided by electoral headquarters), this year it is more likely that we are dealing with “barter” between broadcasters, who were mostly exchanging video footage of pre-election promotion events in Armenian regions. Taking into account the closeness of certain TV channels to specific parties and special attention to these parties’ events, a certain advantage in this “barter”, compared to other elections participants, was gained by Tsarukyan bloc and ARF-Dashnaksutyun. On the one hand, taking into consideration the limited resources of Armenian broadcasters, to eliminate such exchange would have been an unjustifiably maximalist approach. On the other hand, we would like to recommend to the editors of the TV channels, first, to observe the principle of equal opportunities for all participants of the pre-election race, second, to pay more attention to the neutrality of the pieces, and third, to provide references to the real authors of the footage and texts, in case they have been borrowed.

Another quite typical violation of ethical norms of campaign, reflected also in the media coverage, was the use of children in the pre-election promotion, which is contrary to all international standards of political struggle. Obviously, in many cases the broadcasters cannot exclude episodes with participation of children from a campaign event, without harming the coverage. Therefore, the responsibility for this violation lies, first and foremost, with the parties/blocs themselves. Overall, during **the period of official pre-election promotion** we recorded 70 pieces, in which children were present as participants of the promotion. More often than others it was on **PTA First Channel** - 24 cases. It was followed by **“Shant”** and **“Kentron”**: respectively, 17 and 16 pieces, and on **“Yerkir Media”** - 10 pieces. On **“Armenia”** cases of participation of children in the promotion were recorded more rarely than other broadcasters - 3 pieces. Children, supporting specific political forces, appeared in the pieces telling about electoral events of 6 out of 9 parties/blocs. In 19 pieces they supported RPA, 14 times each for Tsarukyan bloc and “Armenian Renaissance”, in 10 and 9 cases respectively for Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian and Congress-PPA blocs, in 4 pieces for ARF-Dashnaksutyun. No such episodes were recorded in the reports of electoral events of “Free Democrats” party, “Way Out” bloc, and Communist Party of Armenia.

THE DEFICIT OF MECHANISMS OF REGULATION of political competition outside of the official pre-election promotion was also reflected in the frequency of violations of ethical norms. During the two studied weeks, **February 15 - March 4**, in the airtime of five TV channels 31 such breaches were recorded. Only in one case it was the author of the piece who was responsible for the violation of ethical norms, in all other cases other persons were responsible for the breach. In situations, when the media outlets are in the unwilling role of a mirror that reflects unethical behavior or conveying unethical statements of politicians (or addressed to politicians), they, as a rule, cannot be held responsible. However, in certain circumstances, media/journalist, even not being the direct distributor of the content that breaches ethical norms, cannot be viewed as passive and unbiased. Thus, a precedent was recorded on **“Kentron”**. Out of 31 violations 21 were recorded on this very TV channel, of which 11 were related to the same topic. These were the excessively harsh, even insulting reactions of representatives and supporters of Tsarukyan bloc to the criticism of Gagik Tsarukyan’s 15 electoral programme points by “Free Democrats” party. Such coverage of controversies between two political forces gives every reason to see obvious partiality of the TV channel.

CHART 8. Violations of Principles of Professional Ethics in Statements/Video Episodes About Parties/Blocs Ahead of Pre-Election Promotion

February 15 - March 4, 2017



IT SHOULD BE NOTED that all the remarks, comments of the monitoring group regarding violations of ethical norms are exclusively of recommendatory nature and cannot cause legal consequences. The overcoming of ethical issues is conditioned by necessity of enhancement of efficiency of media self-regulation system, as well as the culture of public politics in general.

GENERAL INFORMATION ON MONITORING

The monitoring of Armenian broadcast media coverage of the 2017 elections to the RA National Assembly was carried out by Yerevan Press Club in the framework of the project “Promoting Ethical Norms in Media Coverage of RA Parliamentary Elections 2017 by Broadcast Media of Armenia”, with support of the Council of Europe and European Union Programmatic Cooperation Framework Regional Project entitled “Promote Professional and Responsible Journalism by Supporting Regional Network of Self-Regulatory Bodies”.

The monitoring was conducted in two stages: **the first stage** covered the period of February 15 - March 4, 2017 (ahead of pre-election promotion); **second stage** covered the period of March 5-31, 2017 (pre-election promotion).

Objectives of the monitoring were to define and determine through analyzing quantitative and qualitative data:

- the level of attention of the broadcast media of Armenia to the elections to RA National Assembly in 2017;
- how free, impartial and ethical the Armenian broadcast media were in informing the voters of the parties/blocs running in elections to the RA National Assembly by national electoral lists, ensuring their access to air to express their views and opinions, thus assisting the voters in making an independent and conscious choice;
- how compliant the media were with the legislative provisions, regulating the coverage of the pre-election promotion;
- to what extent the media respected the commonly accepted ethical norms and relevant recommendations in covering the elections to the RA National Assembly.

In order to fulfil the objectives mentioned above the monitoring included quantitative and quantitative-qualitative calculations/measuring.

The quantitative measuring was limited to purely arithmetical calculations of units and volume of television content. Quantitative-qualitative measuring was based on the calculations of content units, subjected to certain analysis by the monitors.

The record of data in the framework of the monitoring was carried out on three levels: form and nature of references to parties/blocs running in the elections to the RA NA by national electoral lists, in TV pieces; airtime volume allocated to a party/bloc in TV pieces; statements and video episodes about a party/bloc contained in TV pieces in the aspect of their compliance with principles of professional ethics.

Monitoring covered 5 broadcast media:

national TV channels - **First Channel of Public Television of Armenia (h1)**, **“Armenia”**, **“Yerkir Media”**, **“Kentron”** and **“Shant”**.

On the above-mentioned TV channels the study covered the main issue of news programme, news and comment programmes as well as current affairs/discussion programmes aired in the evening prime time **(18.00-00.00)**. Monitoring did not include pre-

election promotion slots within the programmes, commercial/social advertisement as well as TV tickers.

The object of the monitoring were all TV pieces, which contained references to parties/blocs/their leaders/representatives, running in elections to the RA NA by national electoral lists.

MONITORING METHODOLOGY

I. The main unit of the study was **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 programme host;
- c. a part (section, story) of the programme, touching on different issues/problems, made distinct by theme, composition and design (with a bloom, a jingle, etc.);
- d. announcements of the pieces within the programmes 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.).

Of these:

- **News/news and comment programmes** were divided into stories, and each story was treated as a separate independent piece;

- **Current affairs/discussion programmes** were treated in the following way:

1. If the programme was devoted to one topic, it was treated as one independent piece;
2. If the programme was tessellated, i.e. divided into independent thematic units, then every unit was treated as a separate independent piece.

II. Monitors recorded the duration of the air studied on a daily basis: main issue of news programme, news and comment programmes as well as current affairs/discussion programmes aired from 18.00 till 00.00. The programmes that started but did not end till **18.00** were not considered: the monitoring started after the end of the programme. The programmes that started but did not end till **00.00** were studied in full, until their end.

Monitoring **did not include**:

- Pre-election promotion slots;
- Commercial/social advertisement;

- TV tickers.

III. Monitors ***determined and recorded***:

1. Number and form of references to parties/blocs/their leaders/representatives in TV pieces

Monitors determined and recorded in the appropriate table sections the presence and form of reference to a party/bloc/their leaders/representatives in a TV piece.

Leaders were understood to be:

1. Persons, **holding the first three positions in the national electoral lists**
2. **The first persons of the parties** that officially **entered the blocs**, irrespective of their position in the national electoral lists.

The form of reference to a party/bloc/its leaders/representatives was differentiated in the following way:

A. A piece ***fully*** dealing with a party/bloc/its leaders/representatives

A piece was considered fully dealing with party/bloc, even if it included reference to another party/bloc, or other topic(s) outside of the scope of the subject of the current monitoring, but such reference was ***subordinate*** to the main topic. If such piece contained a reference (of subordinate nature) to another party/bloc, this party/bloc was also recorded in the appropriate table section, according to the form of the reference to it (partly dealing or a mentioning).

B. A piece ***partly*** dealing with a party/bloc/its leaders/representatives

A piece was considered partly dealing with party/bloc, when it contained an ***equivalent*** reference to another party/bloc or other topic(s) outside of the scope of the subject of the current monitoring. If such piece contained equivalent references to two or more parties/blocs, each one of these parties/blocs was also recorded as "partly".

C. A piece containing ***mentioning*** of a party/bloc/its leaders

As mentioning were considered those cases, when in a piece a party/bloc/its leaders were simply named, but no supplementary information or characteristic about it was given.

Any appearance of a party/bloc/its leaders (***the first three persons in the national electoral list***, as well as ***the first person of a party that entered a bloc***) on TV screen was also considered as mentioning. If appearance on the screen was part of a TV piece, already containing a reference (fully or partly) to that party/bloc/its leaders, then it was not additionally recorded as mentioning. If the appearance of a party/bloc/its leaders took place in a TV piece, which did not contain any references to it, then it was considered as separate mentioning.

As mentioning were also recorded pieces, which dealt with activities of a foreign party, having common origins and history with the party of the same name that was object of the current monitoring, including the cases where nothing was said about the links between

that party and the party of the same name in Armenia.

Any appearance of the leaders of a party/bloc, holding the first three positions in the electoral list or the first person of a party that entered a bloc was considered as a reference to that party/bloc, irrespective of the capacity in which these persons appeared (even if they were presented in the TV piece as performing their non-party official or professional duties). And therefore, any such reference was studied according to all categories mentioned above and below (form and nature of the reference, airtime).

With regard to other representatives of a party/bloc a reference (its form, nature and airtime) was recorded only in those cases, when their party/bloc affiliation was somehow stressed in the piece.

Any reference to the current ruling coalition in Armenia, irrespective of the fact whether the piece identified the membering parties, was considered as a reference to the two coalition parties - Republican Party of Armenia and ARF-Dashnaktsutyun and was, hence, studied under all categories mentioned above and below (form and nature of references, airtime).

In each piece only 1 reference and only 1 form of reference to each party/bloc/its leaders/representatives was recorded.

These categories were measured in *units*.

2. Nature of references to parties/blocs/their leaders/representatives in TV pieces

Monitors determined and recorded in the appropriate table section the nature, **positive (+)**, **negative (-)** or **neutral (0)**, of the reference to a party/bloc/its leaders/representatives in a TV piece.

The connotational (positive, negative) references were understood to be those that were contained in pieces leaving on the audience an obvious positive or negative impression about the party/bloc or its leaders/representatives. When the tone was not that obvious, reference was recorded as neutral. All the doubts of the monitor were also interpreted in favour of neutral reference.

Besides, if the piece informed that a certain individual/organization has publicly announced its support/non-support to a party/bloc during the elections to RA National Assembly, the reference to this party/bloc was recorded as positive/negative, respectively.

In each piece only one connotation (+, - or 0) to each party/bloc/its leaders/representatives was recorded.

This category was measured in *units*.

3. Airtime in TV pieces, fully or partly dealing with parties/blocs/their leaders/representatives

In case a piece was fully or partly devoted to a party/bloc, the monitors determined and recorded the **airtime**, allocated to the party/bloc/its leaders/representatives for expressing their views and opinions, as well as judgments and narrations about the party/bloc by other persons.

The measurement of airtime, allocated to a party/bloc/its leaders/representatives for expressing their views and opinions, as well as judgments and narrations about the party/bloc by other persons, was made in the following way:

- 1) if the piece was fully dealing with this or that party/bloc, its whole airtime was recorded by monitors as belonging to that party/bloc;
- 2) if the party/bloc was covered in a part of a piece, the monitors recorded only the part of the airtime covering the party/bloc as belonging to that party/bloc;
- 3) if the piece, fully dealing with party/bloc (conventionally named X), quoted the statements of other party/bloc (conventionally called Y), other than referring to party/bloc X, or the judgments, narrations of other persons about Y were presented **(with no comparison with X)**, Y received the airtime of this part of the piece;
- 4) if the piece, fully dealing with party/bloc X, quoted its words about another party/bloc Y, or the statements of Y about X were quoted, or judgments, narrations of other persons about Y **in comparison with X** were presented, **50% of relevant airtime** was classed by the monitors to belong to X and Y each.

This category was measured in **seconds**.

4. Assessment of statements and video episodes about parties/blocs/their leaders/representatives contained in TV pieces from the point of view of their compliance with principles of professional ethics, enshrined in the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists

Monitors assessed and recorded whether the statements, video episodes (in the current study video episode was understood to be a television frame, not accompanied by words) about the parties/blocs/their leaders/representatives contained violations of norms of professional ethics. At the same time monitors also assessed the statements by the parties/blocs/their leaders/representatives themselves.

The assessment was based on the main ethical principles outlined in the [Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists](#), whose provisions could be applied when assessing statements/video episodes:

- Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality (in particular, points 1.3, 1.5 and 1.6)
- Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights (in particular, points 4.1, 4.3, 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7)
- Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values (points from 5.1 to 5.4)
- Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums (in particular, points 7.1, 7.2, 7.3 and 7.5).

If statements, video episodes about the parties/blocs/their leaders/representatives contained violations of ethical principles, monitors also recorded who they had been committed by:

1. Programme hosts/authors of pieces
2. Other individuals (heroes of pieces, participants of programmes, interviewees, persons quoted, etc.)

At the same time, the media representatives, journalists, which not being hosts/authors, appeared in a piece/programme as its heroes/participants were also recorded in the category "Other individuals".

Besides, TV pieces in general were also assessed from the point of view of their compliance with the professional norms. In addition to the Principles mentioned above, these are:

- Principle 2. Integrity in relations with sources of information
- Principle 3. Editorial independence
- Principle 6. Integrity in relations with the public.

IV. Recording the participants of the programmes studied

At the evening prime time (**18.00-00.00**) of the TV channel studied the monitors recorded in separate lists the participants of programmes in ***"guest-in-studio"/talk-show/interview*** format (including participants of news programmes that had the given format). The names of the programmes, the names of the invitees and their positions were specified in the lists.

PARTIES/BLOCS INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF MONITORING

Object of monitoring were 5 parties and 4 blocs, registered by the RA Central Electoral Commission for running in the elections to RA National Assembly by national electoral lists.

PARTIES/BLOCS RUNNING IN THE PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS BY NATIONAL ELECTORAL LISTS*

1.	"Free Democrats" party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan
2.	"Way Out" bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan
3.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan
4.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan
5.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaksutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan
6.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan
7.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan
8.	"Armenian Renaissance" party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan
9.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian

**The list of the parties/blocs is presented in accordance with Armenian alphabetical order*

PARTIES THAT OFFICIALLY ENTERED THE BLOCS

1.	"Way Out" bloc: "Bright Armenia" party "Republic" party "Civil Contract" party
2.	Tsarukyan bloc: "Prosperous Armenia" party "Alliance" party (Chairman is Tigran Urikhanyan, number 7 in the electoral list) "Arakelutyun" party Armenian National Movement (Board Chairman is Ararat Zurabyan, number 6 in the electoral list)
3.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Armenian National Congress party Popular Party of Armenia
4.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: "Heritage" party (Board Chairman is Raffi Hovanissian, number 11 in the electoral list) "Unity" party

THE MEDIA STUDIED: BRIEF OVERVIEW

FIRST CHANNEL OF PUBLIC TELEVISION OF ARMENIA (h1) is a part of the Public TV and Radio Company, founded in 2001. The managing body is the Council of Public TV and Radio Company. The daily duration of air of the First Channel is 24 hours. The programmes of the channel can also be received abroad via satellite. The study focused on: main issue of the news programme “Orakarg”/“Agenda” (Monday-Saturday at 21.00, since March 5 - Monday-Sunday at 21.00, on March 26 at 22.00), news and comment programme “360⁰” (on Sundays at 21.00, went on the air till March 5), news programme “Khorhrdaranakan Zham”/“Parliamentary Time” (throughout the studied period aired once - on March 1 at 22.22); current affairs/discussion programmes “Orakarg. Hartsazruys”/“Agenda. Interview” (throughout the studied period aired four times - February 20 and 26, March 6 and 27) and “Orakargits Durs”/“Beyond the Agenda” (on Saturdays, in the period of pre-election promotion also aired on other days - March 7, 9, 21, 23, 26, 29, 30 and 31).

“ARMENIA” is a private national TV company, founded in 1998. The daily duration of air is 24 hours. The programmes of the channel can also be received abroad via satellite. The study focused on: main issue of the news programme “Zham”/“Time” (Monday-Saturday at 20.00), news and comment programmes “Post Factum” (on Sundays at 20.00) and “Sur Ankyun”/“Acute Angle” (on Sundays at 22.00); discussion programme “R-Evolution” (on Sundays, in the period of pre-election promotion also aired on March 30).

“YERKIR MEDIA” is a private national TV company, founded in 2004. The daily duration of air is 24 hours. The programmes of the channel can also be received abroad via satellite. The study focused on: main issue of the news programme “Yerkirn Aysor”/“Country Today” (Monday-Saturday at 22.30, on March 4 at 18.30, also aired on Sunday, March 12, 19 and 26 at 20.30), news and comment programmes “Yerkri Shabat”/“Week of the Country” (on Sundays at 20.30) and “Ditaketum”/“In the Center of Attention” (on Saturdays at 21.20); current affairs/discussion programmes “Yerkri Hartse”/“Issue of the Country” (Monday-Thursday, in the period of pre-election promotion, since March 10 also aired on Fridays), “Bardzradzayn”/“Loudly” (on Fridays, since March 6 also aired on Mondays), “Chap u Sahman”/“Measure and Limit” (on Sundays, since March 8 also aired on Wednesdays), “Klor Seghan”/“Round Table” (throughout the studied period aired once - on February 20).

“KENTRON” is a private national TV company, founded in 2004. The daily duration of air is 24 hours. The programmes of the channel can also be received abroad via satellite. The study focused on: main issue of the daily news programme “Epikentron”/“Epicenter” (Monday-Sunday at 21.30), news programme “Status” (Monday-Saturday at 20.40, went on the air till March 4); current affairs/discussion programmes “Urvagits”/“Circuit” (Monday-Thursday, in the period of pre-election promotion, since March 7 aired twice a day, including on Saturday, March 18, once on Friday, March 24, since March 27 - three times a day, including on Friday, March 31, and on March 30 aired four times a day), “Haykakan Urbat”/“Armenian Friday” (on Fridays, also aired on Sunday, March 26), “Hayelu Araj”/“In Front of the Mirror” (Saturday-Sunday, on March 18-19 aired twice a day, on March 25 - three times a day, also aired on Thursday, March 30) and “Antsum Dulyani Het”/“Transition with Dulyan” (Monday-Friday, went on the air till March 21).

“SHANT” is a private national TV company, founded in 1994. The daily duration of air is 24 hours. The programmes of the channel can also be received abroad via satellite. The study focused on: main issue of the news programme “Horizon” (Monday-Saturday at 22.00); discussion programme “Herankar”/“Perspective” (Monday-Friday).

TABLES.
PRE-ELECTION PROMOTION
MARCH 5-31, 2017

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

First Channel of Public Television of Armenia (h1), "Armenia", "Yerkir Media", "Kentron", "Shant"

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	435	130	230	75	26	47	362	73679.4
2.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	323	133	142	48	36	6	281	65872.3
3.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	315	117	164	34	0	12	303	50295.8
4.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	303	130	127	46	16	5	282	57116.7
5.	"Way Out" bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	302	115	143	44	5	10	287	41379
6.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	297	106	152	39	2	5	290	45694
7.	"Armenian Renaissance" party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	279	107	127	45	2	5	272	35383.9
8.	"Free Democrats" party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	258	101	126	31	3	3	252	39967.1
9.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	251	101	109	41	4	2	245	31622.8
Total		2763	1040	1320	403	94	95	2574	441011

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

First Channel of Public Television of Armenia (h1), “Armenia”, “Yerkir Media”, “Kentron”, “Shant”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/ video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/ bloc	Partly dealing with party/ bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	8	0	8	0	3	5	0	0	0	8
2.	Others	7	5	2	0	2	5	0	0	7	0
3.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	4	1	3	0	1	3	0	0	0	4
4.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	3	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
5.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	3	0	3	0	1	2	0	0	0	3
6.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
7.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
8.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
9.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
10.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Total		34	6	28	0	10	24	0	0	7	27

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

First Channel of Public Television of Armenia (h1)

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	106	28	42	36	15	2	89	9213.5
2.	"Way Out" bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	90	29	27	34	4	2	84	7026.5
3.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	88	26	28	34	2	2	84	8561.5
4.	"Armenian Renaissance" party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	88	30	29	29	1	2	85	6911
5.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	87	27	36	24	0	2	85	8339.5
6.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	86	24	37	25	0	2	84	6801.5
7.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	78	23	26	29	0	1	77	6062.5
8.	"Free Democrats" party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	77	27	27	23	2	2	73	8211
9.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	77	24	26	27	2	2	73	6885
Total		777	238	278	261	26	17	734	68012

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

First Channel of Public Television of Armenia (h1)

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/ video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/ bloc	Partly dealing with party/ bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
2.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
3.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
4.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
5.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
6.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
7.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
8.	Others	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
9.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		8	1	7	0	0	8	0	0	1	7

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

“Armenia”

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	60	24	21	15	3	0	57	10351.5
2.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	42	23	18	1	0	0	42	4437.4
3.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	41	21	18	2	0	0	41	4750.9
4.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	37	20	17	0	0	0	37	5295.9
5.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	36	15	17	4	0	0	36	4476.5
6.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	34	13	19	2	0	0	34	2320.5
7.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	31	13	17	1	0	0	31	2140.9
8.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	31	13	18	0	0	0	31	2042.9
9.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	29	10	17	2	0	0	29	1559.5
Total		341	152	162	27	3	0	338	37376

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

“Armenia”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/bloc	Partly dealing with party/bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	Others	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
2.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

“Yerkir Media”

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	88	15	67	6	0	19	69	15729
2.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	82	37	39	6	12	1	69	21628.5
3.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	72	17	51	4	8	3	61	11806.5
4.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	71	15	51	5	0	3	68	11291
5.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	67	13	52	2	1	3	63	10030.5
6.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	65	16	45	4	0	4	61	10508
7.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	63	17	42	4	0	3	60	7447
8.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	58	10	45	3	0	1	57	9358.5
9.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	53	18	32	3	0	1	52	9904
Total		619	158	424	37	21	38	560	107703

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

“Yerkir Media”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/bloc	Partly dealing with party/bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	4	0	4	0	3	1	0	0	0	4
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
3.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	2
4.	Others	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	0
5.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
6.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
7.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
8.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		13	1	12	0	9	4	0	0	2	11

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

“Kentron”

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	121	32	77	12	2	22	97	27354.4
2.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	81	44	33	4	24	0	57	31480.4
3.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	72	25	45	2	0	7	65	19459.9
4.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	68	24	40	4	1	4	63	13331.6
5.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	66	32	31	3	1	0	65	19433.5
6.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	66	29	33	4	2	2	62	17825.7
7.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	61	30	27	4	0	0	61	15261
8.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	54	26	26	2	0	0	54	13563.1
9.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	51	25	22	4	3	0	48	7963.4
Total		640	267	334	39	33	35	572	165673

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

“Kentron”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/bloc	Partly dealing with party/bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	3	0	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
2.	Others	3	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	0
3.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
4.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	2	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
5.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
6.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
7.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	12	4	8	0	0	12	0	0	3	9

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

“Shant”

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	60	31	23	6	6	4	50	11031
2.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	45	26	13	6	2	1	42	8728
3.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	44	24	13	7	0	0	44	7108
4.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	43	27	14	2	0	0	43	6768
5.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	42	25	12	5	0	0	42	6301
6.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	40	28	11	1	1	0	39	7275
7.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	38	25	13	0	0	0	38	5762
8.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	38	22	12	4	1	0	37	5552
9.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	36	17	11	8	1	0	35	3722
Total		386	225	122	39	11	5	370	62247

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

March 5-31, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

“Shant”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/ video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/ bloc	Partly dealing with party/ bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TABLES.
AHEAD OF PRE-ELECTION PROMOTION
FEBRUARY 15 - MARCH 4, 2017

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

First Channel of Public Television of Armenia (h1), "Armenia", "Yerkir Media", "Kentron", "Shant"

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	300	77	197	26	5	20	275	22403.5
2.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	186	34	89	63	0	4	182	20712
3.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	180	69	102	9	24	0	156	33849
4.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	155	45	101	9	0	5	150	12945.5
5.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	118	14	89	15	0	3	115	15362
6.	"Way Out" bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	102	11	80	11	0	0	102	8730
7.	"Armenian Renaissance" party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	97	16	70	11	0	0	97	13163
8.	"Free Democrats" party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	84	8	69	7	0	8	76	11217.5
9.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	72	12	56	4	0	0	72	6091.5
Total		1294	286	853	155	29	40	1225	144474

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

First Channel of Public Television of Armenia (h1), “Armenia”, “Yerkir Media”, “Kentron”, “Shant”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/ video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/ bloc	Partly dealing with party/ bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	12	0	8	0	0	12	0	0	0	12
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	8	0	5	0	0	8	0	0	0	8
3.	Others	6	6	0	0	0	6	0	0	4	2
4.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	3	0	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	2
5.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
6.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		31	6	17	1	1	30	1	0	4	26

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

First Channel of Public Television of Armenia (h1)

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	48	11	32	5	2	0	46	2494
2.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	27	2	15	10	0	0	27	645
3.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	22	4	17	1	0	0	22	634
4.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	18	1	14	3	0	0	18	367.5
5.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	17	1	14	2	0	0	17	357.5
6.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	15	4	11	0	0	0	15	2561.5
7.	"Way Out" bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	14	1	13	0	0	0	14	305
8.	"Armenian Renaissance" party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	13	3	10	0	0	0	13	2988
9.	"Free Democrats" party: Khachatatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	10	0	10	0	0	0	10	138.5
Total		184	27	136	21	2	0	182	10491

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

First Channel of Public Television of Armenia (h1)

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/ video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/ bloc	Partly dealing with party/ bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0
2.	Others	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
3.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		2	1	0	1	1	1	1	0	1	0

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

“Armenia”

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	50	14	29	7	2	1	47	6381
2.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	24	2	12	10	0	0	24	589.5
3.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	18	2	14	2	0	0	18	3020.5
4.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	18	5	13	0	0	0	18	723
5.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	16	1	12	3	0	0	16	351
6.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	14	0	13	1	0	0	14	285
7.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	11	2	9	0	0	0	11	381
8.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	10	0	9	1	0	0	10	189
9.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	8	0	8	0	0	0	8	112
Total		169	26	119	24	2	1	166	12032

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

“Armenia”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/ video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/ bloc	Partly dealing with party/ bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

“Yerkir Media”

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	63	17	20	26	0	0	63	12259.5
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	40	4	34	2	0	2	38	4294
3.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	25	6	17	2	0	0	25	3650
4.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	22	1	20	1	0	0	22	4565.5
5.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	19	3	14	2	0	3	16	4661
6.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	19	1	17	1	0	0	19	1279.5
7.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	14	0	12	2	0	1	13	3604
8.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	13	1	11	1	0	0	13	2732.5
9.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	9	1	8	0	0	0	9	230
Total		224	34	153	37	0	6	218	37276

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

“Yerkir Media”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/ video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/ bloc	Partly dealing with party/ bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
3.	Others	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
4.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		3	1	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	3

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

“Kentron”

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	119	42	66	11	0	16	103	6395
2.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	98	61	33	4	24	0	74	24987
3.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	59	25	28	6	0	3	56	4941.5
4.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	50	7	28	15	0	4	46	5047
5.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	38	5	25	8	0	0	38	4699.5
6.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	34	7	19	8	0	0	34	5092.5
7.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	33	5	21	7	0	0	33	2797
8.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	31	2	24	5	0	7	24	3561.5
9.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	21	1	16	4	0	0	21	894
Total		483	155	260	68	24	30	429	58415

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

“Kentron”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/bloc	Partly dealing with party/bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	11	0	7	0	0	11	0	0	0	11
2.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	4	0	3	0	0	4	0	0	0	4
3.	Others	4	4	0	0	0	4	0	0	3	1
4.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
5.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		21	4	12	0	0	21	0	0	3	18

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Number, form and nature (positive, negative, neutral) of references, airtime, allocated to parties/blocs

“Shant”

	Party/Bloc	Number of references to party/bloc (in units)	Form of references to party/bloc (in units)			Nature of references to party/bloc (in units)			Airtime of pieces, fully or partly dealing with party/bloc (in sec.)
			Pieces, fully dealing with party/bloc	Pieces, partly dealing with party/bloc	Mentionings about party/bloc	+	-	0	
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	43	6	36	1	1	1	41	2839.5
2.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	31	5	26	0	0	2	29	2997
3.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	29	6	22	1	0	0	29	3654
4.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	26	3	23	0	0	0	26	2544.5
5.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	25	3	22	0	0	0	25	2613.5
6.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	22	6	14	2	0	0	22	2171
7.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	21	6	15	0	0	0	21	3801.5
8.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	21	5	15	1	0	0	21	3614
9.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	16	4	12	0	0	0	16	2025
Total		234	44	185	5	1	3	230	26260

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS 2017

February 15 - March 4, 2017

Violations of principles of professional ethics in statements/video episodes about parties/blocs

“Shant”

	Party/Bloc	Number of violations of ethics in statements/ video episodes about party/bloc (in units)	Form of piece, containing violation (in units)			Source of statement/video episode about party/bloc (in units)		Nature of violation (in compliance with the principles of the Code of Ethics of Armenian Media and Journalists)			
			Fully dealing with party/ bloc	Partly dealing with party/ bloc	Containing mentionings about party/bloc	Programme host/author of piece	Other individuals	Principle 1. Accuracy and impartiality	Principle 4. Respect for privacy and other human rights	Principle 5. Respect for representatives of different groups and for universal values	Principle 7. Integrity in covering elections and referendums
1.	Republican Party of Armenia: Vigen Sargsyan, Taron Margaryan, Arpineh Hovhannisyan	3	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	3
2.	Ohanyan-Raffi-Oskanian bloc: Seyran Ohanyan, Armen Martirosyan, Vardan Oskanian	2	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
3.	“Free Democrats” party: Khachatur Kokobelyan, Hrant Bagratyan, Styopa Safaryan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4.	“Way Out” bloc: Edmon Marukyan, Aram Sargsyan, Nikol Pashinyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.	Tsarukyan bloc: Gagik Tsarukyan, Ishkhan Zakaryan, Naira Zohrabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.	Congress-PPA parties bloc: Levon Ter-Petrosyan, Stepan Demirtchyan, Levon Zourabyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7.	Armenian Revolutionary Federation-Dashnaktsutyun party: Armen Rustamyan, Aghvan Vardanyan, Davit Lokyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8.	Communist Party of Armenia: Tatchat Sargsyan, Vazgen Safaryan, Gagik Manukyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9.	“Armenian Renaissance” party: Artur Baghdasaryan, Mher Shahgeldyan, Heghineh Bisharyan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10.	Others	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	5	0	3	0	0	5	0	0	0	5