

Russia's Dima Yahovlev Law

This law is Russia's reply to the US Magnitsky Act. It is the frequently mentioned law that prohibits Russian adoption of American children. The law takes its name from Dima Yahovlev, a Washington-area toddler who died of heatstroke after his father left him in a parked vehicle for nine hours. The English translation was provided by Russia Today (RT), a known distributor of Russian propaganda.

"Measures against persons involved in abuse of fundamental human rights and freedoms including those of Russian citizens"

Approved by the State Duma on December 21, 2012 and approved by the Federation Council on December 26, 2012.

Article 1

Measures against persons involved in abuse of fundamental human rights and freedoms of Russian citizens shall include:

- 1) a ban to enter Russia for those citizens of the United States of America
 - a) who have been involved in abuse of fundamental human rights and freedoms;
 - b) who have committed or been complicit in crimes against Russian citizens abroad;
 - c) who hold public office and by their actions or lack thereof have exempted from responsibility for persons who committed or aided to crimes against Russian citizens;
 - d) who were supposed to take decisions which exempted from responsibility persons who committed or were complicit in crimes against Russian citizens;
 - e) who have been involved in kidnapping and arbitrary imprisonment of Russian citizens;
 - f) who have passed arbitrary and biased sentences on Russian citizens;
 - g) who are engaged in arbitrary prosecution of Russian citizens;
 - h) who have taken arbitrary decisions that violated the rights and justified interests of Russian citizens;
- 2) seizure of financial and other assets owned by the US citizens who are prohibited from entering Russia and a ban to conduct any deals involving property and investment of these citizens.

Article 2

1. The list of the citizens of the United States of America forbidden from entering the Russian Federation and organizations, the activity of which has been suspended in compliance with Article 3 of this Federal law, is kept by a federal executive body in charge of developing and implementing the state policy and legal regulation in terms of foreign relations of the Russian Federation..

2. In respect of those citizens of the United States citizens, included into the list, provided by Part 1 of this Article:

1) they are forbidden from disposing of property located in the Russian Federation;

2) activity of legal entities run by these persons is suspended in the Russian Federation;

3) membership in board of directors or other governing bodies of organizations, registered in the Russian Federation, is suspended.

3. Amendments into the list, provided by Part 1 of this Article, are to be submitted to a federal executive body in charge of developing and implementing the state policy and legal regulation in terms of foreign relations of the Russian Federation, by members of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, members of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Human Rights Ombudsman of the Russian Federation, political parties, the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation as well as by government bodies.

4. Procedure for keeping the list, provided by Part 1 of this Article, is determined by a federal executive body in charge of developing and implementing the state policy and legal regulation in terms of foreign relations of the Russian Federation.

5. Head of a federal executive body in charge of developing and implementing the state policy and legal regulation in terms of foreign relations of the Russian Federation is to report on the course of this Federal Law to the chambers of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation at least once a year.

Article 3

1. In accordance with the current federal law, activities of non-governmental organizations that take part in political activities carried out in the Russian Federation or get grants in cash or other kind of property from citizens (organizations) of the United States of America or implement projects, programs in the Russian Federation or get involved in other activities that pose a threat to the interests of the Russian Federation are suspended by a federal executive body in charge of working out and implementing the state policy and of legal regulation in terms of registering non-governmental organizations. The federal executive body in charge of working out and implementing the state policy and of legal regulation in terms of registering non-governmental organizations forwards the information about the non-governmental organizations the activities of which are suspended, to the federal executive body in charge of working out and

implementing the state policy and of legal regulation in terms of the Russian Federation's international relations.

2. A Russian Federation citizen who has a United States of America citizenship cannot be a member or head a non-governmental organization, its structural division or of the structural division of an international or foreign non-governmental organization (department, branch, or representation) engaged in political activity carried out in the Russian Federation. An infringement of this ban entails a suspension by a federal executive body in charge of working out and implementing the state policy and of regulation in terms of registering non-governmental organizations and the activity of the said non-governmental organization or its structural subdivision.

3. Suspending of the non-governmental organization's activity (or its structural division) in accordance with Parts 1 and 2 of the this Article entails consequences envisaged by paragraph one of Item 61 of Article 32 of the Federal Law dated 12 January 1996, No. 7-Φ3 On Non-Governmental Organizations.” As regards the property of non-governmental organizations (or structural divisions) the activities of which are suspended in accordance with Parts 1 and 2 of this Article, the said property is seized following a court ruling in response to a request of the federal executive body in charge of working out and implementing the state policy and of legal regulation in terms of registering non-governmental organizations.

4. If a non-governmental organization the activity of which is suspended in accordance with this federal law, stops receiving grants in cash or other property from citizens (organizations) of the United State of America or stops implementing its projects, programs or doing anything in the Russian Federation which poses a threat to the interests of the Russian Federation, the operation of this organization is resumed following a decision by a federal executive body in charge of working out and implementing the state policy and of legal regulation in terms of registering non-governmental organizations.

Article 4

1. It is forbidden to pass children, citizens of the Russian Federation over for adoption by citizens of the United States of America. Operation of organizations and bodies involved in selecting and passing children, citizens of the Russian Federation over for adoption by citizens of the United States of America willing to adopt the indicated children is prohibited on the territory of the Russian Federation.

2. Due to the prohibition on passing children, citizens of the Russian Federation over for adoption by the citizens of the United States of America as imposed in Part 1 of this Article, on the part of the Russian Federation terminate the operation of the Agreement between the United States of America and the Russian Federation Regarding Cooperation in Adoption of Children that had been signed in Washington, DC on July 13, 2011.

Article 5

To amend Subparagraph 7 of part one, Article 27 of the Federal Law of August 15, 1996 # 114-FZ 'On the Procedure for Exit from the Russian Federation and Entry into the Russian Federation' (Collected Legislation of the Russian Federation, 1996, #34, Article 4029; 2003, #2, Article 159; 2006, #31, Article 3420; 2007, #3, Article 410; 2008, # 19, Article 2094; #30, Article 3616) and lay it out in the following edition:

“7) in regard to foreign citizens or individuals without a citizenship, a decision is taken on undesirability of their stay (residence) in the Russian Federation, including citizens on the list of citizens of the United States who are prohibited from entering the Russian Federation;”.

Article 6

This Federal law and Subparagraph 7 of part one, Article 27 of the Federal Law of August 15, 1996 # 114-FZ 'on the Procedure for Exit from the Russian Federation and Entry into the Russian Federation' (this edition of the Federal law) is applied to citizens of countries that had taken the decision on forbidding entry of citizens of the Russian Federation to their territories, and on arresting assets of citizens of the Russian Federation based on involvement of these citizens of the Russian Federation in human rights violation in the Russian Federation.

Article 7

This Federal law comes to force as of January 1st, 2013.

Vladimir Putin

President of the Russian Federation