Freedom of panorama in Russia

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Wikimedia RU

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Timeline

12.2009: we wrote open letter to State Duma

8.2010: we sent detailed proposal to Duma

12.2010: we talked to Russian President

6.2011: governmental expert group (that included

us) started to work

4.2012: 1st hearing in Duma

6-7.2012: working group in Duma (us included)

14.03.2014: the law is officially published

1.10.2014: the amendments came into effect



In Legalese

Article 1276 part 2 of the Civil Code of Russia: «It is permitted to use freely by means of reproduction and distribution of made copies, broadcasting to the air or via cable, providing to the public in the form of images of works of architecture, urban development, and works of garden and landscape design, that are located in places open for free attendance, or visible from that places.»



Types of use

- ...by means of:
- reproduction and distribution of made copies,
- broadcasting to the air or via cable,
- providing to the public

...>>>

That effectively means that any and all uses of the photos are allowed (earlier the use didn't include distribution).



Form

«...
in the form of images of
...»

The form includes now not only photos, but also videos, drawings, virtual 3D models, etc.



Types of works

«...works of:

- architecture,
- urban development,
- and works of garden and landscape design...»

This is an extended list of works. This fixes problems with aerial photos, photos of fountains, flowerbeds, decorative trees; unfortunately, sculptures are not included.



Location

«...that are:

- located in places open for free attendance,
- or visible from that places.»

It is an *extended list* of locations, comparing to most other jurisdiction — e.g., it inlcudes tall building under a fence or indoor (e.g. subways).

Note, there's no any remark that the object should be located *permanently*.



Commercial use

This part of the article doesn't include any remark that specifically limits *commercial use*.

There's also another part (older, in fact) of the article, that allows non-commercial use in some cases, but it is not considered as part of Freedom of panorama.



Thank you for your attention!

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The photo by A.Savin, shot on 19.08.2009 is used: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Panorama_360_Red_Square.jpg

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