Video-hosting platform DailyMotion has been permanently blocked in Russia after allegations of copyright infringement were brought against the company by ‘Pyatnitsa’ TV channel. The platform, owned by French company Vivendi, is the third most popular video sharing site in the world, and has approximately 5 million users in Russia.

‘Pyatnitsa’, which is owned by Gazprom Media, first brought charges against DailyMotion in March 2016 for hosting video clips of its programmes without permission. As a result, specific URLs were blocked by court order on two occasions in 2016. Under repeat infringement legislation intended to combat piracy, in force since 2015, the site was added to a list of repeat offenders and ordered to be blocked by Moscow City Court in December. Roskomnadzor, Russia’s regulatory body with oversight of online content, implemented the decision in January 2017.

Representatives of Daily Motion have said that the company was unaware of any ongoing court procedure and would “take all necessary steps to make contact with relevant authorities in Russia to resolve the issue.”

**Additional Information**

- Article from Roskomsvoboda (Russian only)

**Follow-Ups**

- 26 Sep 2017 | The CoE Commissioner for Human Rights recalls that any restrictions on access to Internet content should be based on a clear...
and predictable framework affording guarantee of judicial oversight to prevent possible abuses.

- Comment by the Commissioner for Human Rights: "Arbitrary Internet blocking jeopardises freedom of expression"