

RUSSIAN FEDERATION**FEDERAL LAW****ON PUBLIC MONITORING OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN PLACES OF DETENTION AND
ON ASSISTANCE TO DETAINEES**

Adopted
by the State Duma
on 21 May 2008

Approved
by the Federation Council
on 30 May 2008

(as amended by Federal Law No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010)

Article 1. Subject-matter of the present Federal Law

1. The present Federal Law shall establish the fundamental legal principles for the participation of non-governmental organisations in public monitoring of human rights in places of detention (hereafter “public monitoring”) and assistance to detainees, including in creating conditions for their adjustment to life in the community.

2. The present Federal Law shall not diminish the rights of non-governmental organisations, civic boards, agencies and committees to carry out public monitoring in accordance with other regulatory legal instruments of the Russian Federation.

Article 2. Basic definitions

For the purposes of the present Federal Law, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

1) detainees: persons subjected to administrative detention and administrative arrest; military service personnel under disciplinary arrest; persons detained on suspicion of committing an offence and/or accused of committing an offence, to whom a preventive measure in the form of detention in custody has been applied (hereafter “suspects and accused persons”); persons serving custodial sentences; juveniles held in temporary holding centres for juvenile offenders controlled by the internal affairs agencies (hereafter “juvenile offenders”); juveniles in special closed-type educational institutions controlled by the education authorities (hereafter “closed-type educational institutions”) and places of detention;

2) places of detention – places prescribed by law for serving terms of administration detention or administrative arrest; places for serving terms of disciplinary arrest; detention facilities for suspects and accused persons (pre-trial detention centres of the penal system, temporary holding facilities for suspects and accused persons controlled by the internal affairs agencies and border agencies of the federal security service); penal institutions enforcing criminal penalties in the form of imprisonment (hereafter “penal institutions”); disciplinary military units and military detention centres; temporary holding centres for juvenile offenders controlled by the internal affairs agencies; closed-type educational institutions.

Article 3. Legal regulation with regard to public monitoring and assistance to detainees

Legal regulation with regard to public monitoring and assistance to detainees shall be effected in accordance with the [Constitution](#) of the Russian Federation, the universally recognised principles and norms of international law, international treaties of the Russian Federation, Federal Constitutional Law No. 1-FKZ of 26 February 1997 “On the Human Rights Ombudsman in the Russian Federation”, Federal [Law](#) No. 32-FZ of 4 April 2005 “On the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation”, the present Federal Law and other federal laws.

Article 4. Principles for carrying out public monitoring and assistance to detainees

1. Public monitoring and assistance to detainees shall be carried out on the basis of the principles of voluntary service, equality and the rule of law.

2. When carrying out public monitoring and assistance to detainees, there shall be no interference in operative-search or criminal procedural activities or in proceedings in cases involving administrative offences.

Article 5. Individuals and entities entitled to carry out public monitoring and assistance to detainees

1. Public monitoring in accordance with the present Federal Law shall be carried out by:

1) public monitoring committees formed in subjects of the Russian Federation in the manner stipulated by [Article 10](#) of the present Federal Law (hereafter “public monitoring committees”);

2) members of public monitoring committees.

2. Assistance to detainees in accordance with the present Federal [Law](#) shall be carried out by non-governmental organisations.

Article 6. Objects and tasks of public monitoring committees

1. Public monitoring committees shall operate on a permanent basis in the manner stipulated by the present Federal Law and other regulatory legal instruments of the Russian Federation, for the purpose of facilitating the implementation of state policy on human rights protection in places of detention.

2. In any given subject of the Russian Federation, a single public monitoring committee shall be formed which shall carry out its activities within the limits of the territory of the relevant subject of the Russian Federation.

3. The main tasks of a public monitoring committee shall be:

1) to carry out public monitoring of human rights in places of detention situated within the territory of the subject of the Russian Federation in which a public monitoring committee has been formed;

2) to prepare decisions in the form of findings, proposals and petitions (hereafter likewise referred to as “decisions”) in the light of the public monitoring carried out;

3) to foster co-operation between non-governmental organisations, the administration of places of detention, state authorities of subjects of the Russian Federation, local authorities and other agencies exercising within the limits of the territory of the relevant subject of the Russian Federation powers relating to the protection of lawful rights and freedoms and conditions of detention.

4. Public monitoring committees shall not be legal entities.

Article 7. Composition of public monitoring committees

1. The board of the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation (hereafter “the board of the Civic Chamber”) shall stipulate for each subject of the Russian Federation the number of members of the public monitoring committee, which shall be not less than five and not more than twenty.

2. Following the formation of a public monitoring committee, the Board of the Civic Chamber may adopt a decision to change the number of members of the public monitoring committee within the limits stipulated by paragraph 1 of the present article.
(paragraph 2 introduced by Federal [Law](#) No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010)

Article 8. Rules of procedure of public monitoring committees

1. The rules of procedure of a public monitoring committee shall be approved at the first meeting thereof.

2. The rules of procedure of a public monitoring committee shall stipulate the procedure governing:

1) the holding of meetings of the public monitoring committee, their frequency and competence;

2) the preparation and examination of matters at meetings of the public monitoring committee;

3) the adoption and execution of decisions of the public monitoring committee;

4) the implementation of other forms of activity of the public monitoring committee in accordance with the present Federal Law.

Article 9. Support for the activities of public monitoring committees

1. Any non-governmental organisation which has nominated in accordance with [Article 10](#) of the present Federal Law a candidate for membership of a public monitoring committee, in the event that that candidate is appointed as a member of the public monitoring committee, shall reimburse the costs associated with the exercise of his or her powers and shall assist in providing logistical and information support for the activities of the relevant public monitoring committee.

2. Support for the activities of public monitoring committees may also be provided by other means not prohibited by federal laws.

Article 10. Procedure for forming public monitoring committees and conferring powers on members of public monitoring committees

(as amended by Federal [Law](#) No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010)

1. Not later than 90 days prior to the expiration of the term of office of a public monitoring committee, and also in the instances provided for in [Article 11, paragraphs 2 and 3](#), of the present Federal Law, the secretary of the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation (hereafter “the secretary of the Civic Chamber”) shall place in the “Russian gazette” and periodicals whose founders (co-founders) or the founders (co-founders) of whose editorial offices are state authorities of a subject of the Russian Federation a notice concerning the commencement of the procedure for nominating candidates for membership of the public monitoring committee which is being reconstituted (hereafter “the notice”).

2. The right to nominate candidates for membership of a public monitoring committee shall belong to all-Russian, inter-regional and regional non-governmental organisations which are officially registered and have been operating for not less than five years as from the date on which they were established and whose statutory object or the aim of whose activities is to protect, or promote the protection of, human and civil rights and freedoms. The governing body

of a non-governmental organisation may nominate not more than two candidates for membership of a public monitoring committee.

3. Non-governmental organisations which, under Federal [Law](#) No. 114-FZ of 25 July 2002 “On combating extremist activities”, have been issued with a written warning against engaging in extremist activities shall be prohibited from nominating candidates for membership of public monitoring committees for a period of one year as from the date of issue of the warning, unless it has been found by a court to be unlawful, as shall non-governmental organisations whose activities have been suspended in accordance with the said Federal [Law](#), unless the decision ordering the suspension has been found by a court to be unlawful.

4. Not later than 60 days following the date of publication of the notice, the non-governmental organisation shall send to the secretary of the Civic Chamber a nomination for membership of the public monitoring committee. There shall be attached to the nomination:

- 1) the decision of the governing body of the non-governmental organisation;
- 2) a notarised copy of the document confirming that the non-governmental organisation has been entered in the unified state registry of legal entities;
- 3) the statutes of the non-governmental organisation;
- 4) information on the activities of the non-governmental organisation;
- 5) details of the candidate for membership of the public monitoring committee, confirming that the candidate meets the requirements provided for in [Article 12](#) of the present Federal Law;
- 6) a written statement by the candidate, confirming his or her wish to become a member of the public monitoring committee.

5. The secretary of the Civic Chamber may apply to the relevant agencies, asking them to verify the details of the candidate for membership of the public monitoring committee and of the non-governmental organisation which nominated him or her, as submitted in accordance with the present article and [Article 12](#) of the present Federal Law. The said agencies shall be bound to communicate the outcome of the verification within 10 days.

6. The Board of the Civic Chamber shall examine the nominations received not later than 60 days following the date of publication of the notice and other material provided for in [paragraph 4 of the present article](#), and within a period of not more than 80 days following the date of publication of the notice shall adopt a decision appointing a member of the public monitoring committee or rejecting a nomination. The non-governmental organisation which nominated the candidate shall be notified of the outcome of the examination of the nomination for membership of the public monitoring committee.

7. Within 10 days following the date of adoption by the board of the Civic Chamber of a decision to appoint a member of a public monitoring committee in the manner determined by the board of the Civic Chamber, the member of the public monitoring committee shall be issued with a mandate of member of a public monitoring committee. The model for the said mandate shall be approved by the board of the Civic Chamber. The mandate shall specify the subject of the Russian Federation in which the public monitoring committee is being formed, and the term of office of the member of the public monitoring committee. The mandate shall entitle the member of the public monitoring committee to exercise his or her powers within the territory of the said subject of the Russian Federation and within the specified period.

8. The secretary of the Civic Chamber shall inform the heads of the federal executive authorities within whose purview the places of detention fall, the federal executive authority authorised to carry out state registration of non-governmental organisations, the Human Rights Ombudsman in the Russian Federation, the human rights ombudsman in the relevant subject of the Russian Federation and the civic chamber of the relevant subject of the Russian Federation of the fact that the public monitoring committee has been duly constituted and of any changes in its composition.

(as amended by Federal [Law](#) No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010)

9. A public monitoring committee shall be duly constituted if at least two thirds of the number of members established in accordance with [Article 7](#) of the present Federal Law have

been appointed. A meeting of a public monitoring committee shall have a quorum if at least half of the appointed members of the public monitoring committee are present thereat.

(as amended by Federal [Law No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010](#))

10. In the event that a public monitoring committee has not been duly constituted, at least three governing bodies of non-governmental organisations entitled to nominate candidates for membership of a public monitoring committee may petition the secretary of the Civic Chamber with a proposal that the procedure for forming a public monitoring committee in the relevant subject of the Russian Federation be continued. The said petition shall provide a basis for commencing the procedure for additional nominations for membership of the public monitoring committee, to be implemented in the manner stipulated by [paragraphs 1 - 8 of the present article](#).

(as amended by Federal [Law No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010](#))

11. The term of office of a public monitoring committee shall be three years.

(as amended by Federal [Law No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010](#))

12. The first meeting of a public monitoring committee shall be held not later than 30 days following the date on which it was duly constituted. At the first meeting of a public monitoring committee, its rules of procedure shall be approved and the chair and deputy chair (deputy chairs) of the committee shall be elected.

(as amended by Federal [Law No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010](#))

13. The powers of a public monitoring committee shall be terminated as from the date of the first meeting of the newly constituted public monitoring committee, except in the instances provided for in [Article 11, paragraphs 2 and 3](#), of the present Federal Law.

14. A member of a public monitoring committee shall be invested with powers for the term of office of the public monitoring committee to which he or she belongs.

15. The secretary of the Civic Chamber shall place in the “Russian Gazette” and periodicals whose founders (co-founders) or the founders (co-founders) of whose editorial offices are state authorities of a subject of the Russian Federation:

1) an announcement to the effect that the public monitoring committee has been duly constituted;

(as amended by Federal [Law No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010](#))

2) an announcement to the effect that the activities of the public monitoring committee, as constituted, have been suspended or terminated;

3) details of the composition of the public monitoring committee and any changes therein;

4) details of the location of the public monitoring committee.

Article 11. Suspension and termination of the activities of public monitoring committees, as constituted

1. The activities of a public monitoring committee shall be suspended by the board of the Civic Chamber as from the time the public monitoring committee ceases to be duly constituted, as stipulated by [Article 10, paragraph 9](#), of the present Federal Law, and on other grounds in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation.

2. In the event that a public monitoring committee commits repeated violations of the [Constitution](#) of the Russian Federation, federal constitutional laws, the present Federal Law or other federal laws or systematically engages in activities contrary to its objects, the board of the Civic Chamber, on the recommendation of the procurator of the relevant subject of the Russian Federation, may adopt a decision to terminate the activities of the public monitoring committee, as constituted.

3. The activities of a public monitoring committee, as constituted, shall be declared by the board of the Civic Chamber to have been terminated if it has not been duly constituted in the manner stipulated by [Article 10, paragraph 10](#), of the present Federal Law.

(as amended by Federal [Law No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010](#))

Article 12. Members of public monitoring committees

1. A citizen of the Russian Federation who has reached the age of 25 years and has experience of working in the field of human rights shall be eligible for membership of a public monitoring committee. Members of public monitoring committees shall carry out their activities on a public-service basis.

2. A person who has a criminal record or who has been declared by a court to be incompetent or of limited capacity shall not be eligible for membership of a public monitoring committee. One and the same person shall not be appointed as a member of a public monitoring committee of the same subject of the Russian Federation more than three times in a row.

3. Lawyers, officers of agencies of the Procurator's Office, persons holding state offices of the Russian Federation, offices of the federal state service, state offices of subjects of the Russian Federation, offices of the state civil service of subjects of the Russian Federation or offices of the municipal service and persons holding elective offices in local authorities shall not be eligible for membership of public monitoring committees.

Article 13. Suspension of powers of members of public monitoring committees

1. The powers of a member of a public monitoring committee shall be suspended if one of the following grounds applies:

1) administrative detention of the member of the public monitoring committee for a period of more than three hours (in the event that he or she is the subject of proceedings in a case involving an administrative offence, entailing administrative arrest as one of the measures of administrative punishment – for the duration of the administration detention);

2) bringing of the member of the public monitoring committee before the justice system as a suspect or accused person – from the time he or she is actually detained as a person suspected of committing an offence until the termination of the criminal prosecution against the said person owing to the absence of elements of crime or non-involvement in the commission of the offence or pending the entry into legal force of a court judgment acquitting him or her;

3) imposition on the member of the monitoring committee of an administrative penalty in the form of administrative arrest – for the duration of the administrative arrest.

2. The secretary of the Civic Chamber and the relevant public monitoring committee in the instance provided for in [paragraph 1, sub-paragraph 1, of the present article](#) shall be notified in accordance with [Article 27.3, paragraph 4.2, of the Code of the Russian Federation on Administrative Offences](#), and in the instances provided for in [paragraph 1, sub-paragraph 2, of the present article](#), - in accordance with [Article 96, paragraph two.1, and Article 108, paragraph twelve, of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the Russian Federation](#).

(paragraph 2 as amended by Federal [Law No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010](#))

Article 14. Termination of powers of members of public monitoring committees

1. The powers of a member of a public monitoring committee shall be terminated if one of the following grounds applies:

1) expiration of the term of office of the public monitoring committee to which he or she belongs;

2) occurrence of one of the grounds provided for in [Article 12, paragraph 3, of the present Federal Law](#);

3) submission by the member of the public monitoring committee to the secretary of the Civic Chamber of a written notice of resignation from the public monitoring committee – as from the date of submission of the notice;

4) entry into legal force of a court judgment convicting the member of the public monitoring committee or of a court decision ordering that compulsory measures of a medical nature be applied to him or her;

5) entry into legal force of a court decision declaring the member of the public monitoring committee to be incompetent or of limited capacity;

6) loss by the member of the public monitoring committee of citizenship of the Russian Federation or acquisition of the citizenship of a foreign state;

7) entry into legal force of a court decision declaring the member of the public monitoring committee to be missing without trace;

8) death of the member of the public monitoring committee or entry into legal force of a court decision declaring him or her to be deceased;

9) decision of the head of the governing body of the non-governmental organisation which nominated the member of the public monitoring committee to withdraw the said member of the public monitoring committee owing to improper performance of his or her obligations;

10) dissolution or reorganisation in the form of a break-up of the non-governmental organisation which nominated the member of the public monitoring committee;

11) termination of the activities of the public monitoring committee, as constituted.

2. Within three days, the public monitoring committee shall notify the secretary of the Civic Chamber of any termination of powers of a member of the public monitoring committee and of the grounds for early termination of powers, except in the instance provided for in [paragraph 1, sub-paragraph 3, of the present article](#).

Article 15. Forms of activity of public monitoring committees

1. The main forms of activity of a public monitoring committee shall be:

1) visiting places of detention for the purpose of carrying out public monitoring in the manner stipulated by the present Federal [Law](#) and other federal laws;

2) examining proposals, statements and complaints from detainees and other persons who have become aware of a violation of the rights of detainees;

3) preparing decisions in the light of the public monitoring conducted. Decisions of a public monitoring committee shall be advisory in nature;

4) sending material on the outcome of the public monitoring carried out to the Human Rights Ombudsman in the Russian Federation, the human rights ombudsman in the relevant subject of the Russian Federation, the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation, the civic chamber of the relevant subject of the Russian Federation, the non-governmental organisations which nominated candidates for membership of the public monitoring committee, the media, the relevant federal executive authorities, the executive authorities of subjects of the Russian Federation and local authorities, as well as to other competent government agencies or officials thereof;

5) co-operating on matters relating to its activities with state authorities of the Russian Federation, government agencies other than state authorities, local authorities and officials thereof, the Human Rights Ombudsman in the Russian Federation, human rights ombudsmen in subjects of the Russian Federation, the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation, civic chambers of subjects of the Russian Federation, non-governmental organisations, the media, public monitoring committees formed in other subjects of the Russian Federation and other individuals and entities, as it sees fit;

6) participating in accordance with the penal enforcement [legislation](#) of the Russian Federation in the work of committees of correctional institutions in dealing with matters concerning the transfer of convicted prisoners from one penal facility to another;

7) conducting measures (public discussions, hearings) on matters relating to their activities.

2. Heads of executive authorities of subjects of the Russian Federation shall have the right to involve a public monitoring committee in the work of civic boards set up under the auspices of

the relevant executive authorities of subjects of the Russian Federation in matters relating to the activities of the public monitoring committee. In that event the heads of executive authorities of subjects of the Russian Federation shall ensure the participation of members of the public monitoring committee in the work of the said civic boards.

3. For the purpose of realising the objects and tasks determined by the present Federal [Law](#), a public monitoring committee shall have the right to participate in other activities, provided they do not conflict with the present Federal Law and other federal laws.

4. The public monitoring committee shall notify the relevant territorial agency of the penal system, internal affairs agency, border agency of the federal security service and education authority of the Russian Federation of planned visits to places of detention, indicating the places of detention to be visited and the dates of the visits, and may likewise notify the procurator of the relevant subject of the Russian Federation, equivalent military procurators and procurators working in specialised procurator's offices (according to the matters within their purview).

Article 16. Powers of members of public monitoring committees

1. In carrying out public monitoring, members of public monitoring committees shall have the right:

1) in a format consisting of at least two members of the public monitoring committee, without special permission and in the manner stipulated by the relevant federal executive authority within whose purview the places of detention fall, to visit places of detention, provided they observe the internal rules and regulations established therein. Members of a public monitoring committee shall have the right to visit cells, punishment cells, in-patient units, exercise yards, libraries, canteens, punishment and disciplinary isolation cells, single cells, areas for ensuring the personal safety of convicted prisoners and other areas in places of detention except for facilities for protecting and guarding convicted prisoners, visiting which requires the consent of the heads of the relevant places of detention;

2) to interview persons subjected to administrative detention or administrative arrest, military service personnel under disciplinary arrest, persons serving custodial sentences, juvenile offenders, juveniles in closed-type educational institutions and places of detention under the conditions and in the manner stipulated by the penal enforcement [legislation](#) of the Russian Federation, other federal laws and regulatory legal instruments of the Russian Federation;

3) to interview suspects and accused persons being held in custody about matters relating to the protection of their rights in places of detention in a way that allows them to remain within sight and earshot of a representative of the administration of the relevant place of detention, and in the manner stipulated by the penal enforcement [legislation](#) of the Russian Federation, other federal laws and regulatory legal instruments of the Russian Federation;

4) in accordance with the legislation of the Russian Federation to receive and examine proposals, statements and complaints from detainees and other persons who have become aware of a violation of the rights of detainees;

5) in the manner stipulated by the legislation of the Russian Federation, to request from the administration of places of detention and to obtain from them the information and documents required in order for the public monitoring committee to conduct public monitoring and prepare findings, proposals or petitions;

6) to petition officials of the administration of places of detention, agencies of the Procurator's Office, internal affairs agencies, institutions and agencies of the penal system, agencies of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation, agencies of the federal security service and education authorities of the Russian Federation with regard to matters concerning the protection of human rights in places of detention.

2. In exercising their powers, members of a public monitoring committee shall be bound to observe the provisions of the regulatory and legal instruments governing the activities of places of detention, and to comply with the lawful requirements of the administration of places of

detention. The conduct of public monitoring shall not hinder the implementation of procedural measures.

3. During periods when special conditions apply in places of detention, the powers of members of public monitoring committees to visit such places shall be exercised with the consent of the head of the federal or relevant territorial agency of the penal system, internal affairs agency, border agency of the federal security service or education authority of the Russian Federation.

4. For the purpose of realising the objects and tasks determined by the present Federal [Law](#), members of a public monitoring committee may participate in other activities, provided they do not conflict with the present Federal Law and other regulatory legal instruments of the Russian Federation.

Article 17. Restrictions on the activities of members of public monitoring committees

1. A member of a public monitoring committee shall not carry out public monitoring in a place of detention if a close relative (spouse, parent, child, adoptive parent, adoptive child, sibling, grandfather, grandmother, grandchild) of the member is being held there, or if the member of the public monitoring committee is a victim, witness, defendant or other person participating in proceedings in a criminal case in which a person being held in the place of detention is involved.

2. In the event of the circumstances specified in [paragraph 1 of the present article](#), the head of the place of detention may, by his or her order or instruction, deny a member of a public monitoring committee access to the place of detention. Such order or instruction may be appealed against by the member of the public monitoring committee to a higher agency or court.

3. Members of public monitoring committees shall not receive any material consideration for their activities in carrying out public monitoring.

Article 18. Ensuring the safety of members of public monitoring committees

The administration of the place of detention shall ensure the safety of members of the public monitoring committee and shall arrange for them to be accompanied during visits to places of detention.

Article 19. Procedure for the examination of findings, proposals and petitions of public monitoring committees by government agencies, local authorities and officials

Government agencies, local authorities and officials shall examine any findings, proposals and petitions sent to them by a public monitoring committee and shall notify it of the outcome of the examination of the said findings, proposals and petitions in accordance with the regulatory legal [instruments](#) of the Russian Federation.

Article 20. Prohibition of disclosure by members of public monitoring committees of preliminary investigation data

1. A member of a public monitoring committee shall not disclose any preliminary investigation data of which he or she may become aware in the exercise of his or her powers, except in instances provided for by the criminal procedural [legislation](#) of the Russian Federation.

2. Where necessary, the person conducting the inquiry or the investigator shall warn a member of a public monitoring committee that it is prohibited to disclose any preliminary investigation data of which he or she may become aware in the exercise of his or her powers, whereupon the member of the public monitoring committee shall sign a statement

acknowledging that he or she has been informed of his or her liability under [Article 310](#) of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation.

Article 21. Procedure governing the provision of assistance by non-governmental organisations to detainees

1. Non-governmental organisations shall provide assistance to detainees as regards ensuring acceptable conditions for their detention and creating conditions for their adjustment to life in the community. Non-governmental organisations shall provide assistance to the administration of penal institutions with a view to rehabilitating persons serving custodial sentences. The said assistance shall be provided in the forms and manner stipulated by the present Federal Law and other regulatory legal instruments of the Russian Federation.

2. In order to provide assistance to detainees, non-governmental organisations shall be bound to agree upon the planned measures and timeframes for their implementation with the administration of places of detention and to indicate the particulars (surname, first name and patronymic) of the non-governmental organisation representatives participating therein.

Article 22. Forms of assistance to be provided by non-governmental organisations to detainees

1. The main forms of assistance to detainees shall be:

1) participating in the resolution of matters concerning their working arrangements, accommodation and amenities, medical treatment and social welfare;

2) participating in arrangements for dependants of persons under administrative arrest, suspects and accused persons and persons serving custodial sentences in cases where the said dependants have to be placed in a health care facility or social service institution or require nursing care;

3) participating in the protection of their freedom of conscience and religion;

4) providing assistance to the administration of places of detention in creating new jobs for persons serving custodial sentences and in placing manufacturing orders with correctional institutions and their enterprises;

5) helping the administration of places of detention to ensure that detainees receive general education, vocational training, basic vocational, secondary vocational and higher vocational education;

6) helping the administration of juvenile correctional facilities to organise the educational process;

7) helping the administration of places of detention to organise recreational opportunities for persons serving custodial sentences and juvenile offenders (organising concerts, exhibitions, lectures, screenings of films and videos, other cultural and awareness-raising measures) and conduct activities designed to educate persons serving custodial sentences and juvenile offenders about the law;

8) providing assistance to the administration of places of detention in improving the library service for suspects and accused persons, persons serving custodial sentences and juvenile offenders, arranging subscriptions to newspapers and magazines, fitting out sports areas in penal institutions and providing them with sports equipment;

9) helping the counselling service of penal institutions;

10) participating in the process of educating persons serving custodial sentences about how to prevent dangerous infectious diseases;

11) participating in civic and health education measures and measures to help persons serving custodial sentences and juvenile offenders to maintain and develop socially useful contacts;

12) participating in the work of guardianship boards of juvenile correctional facilities;

13) providing assistance in maintaining and developing ties between persons serving custodial sentences and juvenile offenders and their families, and in forming contacts with persons and organisations outside places of detention;

14) providing assistance in supporting the activities of the relevant public monitoring committees;

15) providing material support to places of detention for the purpose of improving their facilities;

16) other forms of assistance.

2. Non-governmental organisations may participate in other activities aimed at improving the functioning of places of detention, provided they do not conflict with the present Federal Law and other regulatory legal instruments of the Russian Federation.

Article 23. Provision by non-governmental organisations of material support to places of detention

1. Non-governmental organisations may provide material support to places of detention in the manner stipulated by the present article and the regulatory and legal instruments of the Russian Federation.

2. When providing material support to places of detention, non-governmental organisations may specify the purpose for which the monies or other material resources being provided by them are to be used. In that event, the non-governmental organisation shall conclude appropriate agreements with the administration of the place of detention.

3. Non-governmental organisations which have provided material support in the manner stipulated by [Article 2 of the present article](#) shall have the right to obtain information concerning the use of the monies or other material resources not later than 30 days following the date of receipt by the administration of the place of detention of a request to provide the relevant information.

4. In the event that funds provided by way of material support are used for unauthorised purposes, the non-governmental organisation shall notify the relevant federal executive authority within whose purview the place of detention falls. The said federal executive authority shall conduct an investigation and shall notify the non-governmental organisation of the outcome of the investigation and the action taken.

Article 24. Liability of members of public monitoring committees when carrying out public monitoring. Liability for obstructing the carrying out of public monitoring

1. Any failure by a member of a public monitoring committee to comply with the requirements of the criminal procedural [legislation](#) of the Russian Federation or of regulatory legal instruments on matters concerning penal enforcement, and likewise any failure to comply with the lawful requirements of the administration of a place of detention shall give rise to the liability stipulated by the [legislation](#) of the Russian Federation.

2. Any disclosure of preliminary investigation data of which a member of a public monitoring committee may have become aware in the exercise of his or her powers, if the member has been given warning in the manner stipulated by [Article 20, paragraph 2](#), of the present Federal Law, shall give rise to [criminal liability](#).

3. Any obstruction of the carrying out of public monitoring shall give rise to liability in accordance with the [legislation](#) of the Russian Federation.

Article 25. Supervision over compliance with the legislation of the Russian Federation by individuals and entities entitled to carry out public monitoring and assistance to detainees

Supervision over compliance with the legislation of the Russian Federation by individuals and entities entitled to carry out public monitoring and assistance to detainees shall be exercised by the Procurator's Office of the Russian Federation in the manner stipulated by the [legislation](#) of the Russian Federation.

Article 26. Final provisions

1. Within 30 days following the date of entry into force of the present Federal Law, the secretary of the Civic Chamber shall place in the "Russian Gazette" and periodicals whose founders (co-founders) or the founders (co-founders) of whose editorial offices are state authorities of a subject of the Russian Federation information concerning the commencement of the procedure for nominating candidates for membership of public monitoring committees. Thereafter the procedure for forming public monitoring committees shall be conducted in accordance with [Article 10](#) of the present Federal Law.

(as amended by Federal [Law](#) No. 132-FZ of 1 July 2010)

2. Within 90 days following the entry into force of the present Federal Law, the federal executive authorities within whose purview the places of detention fall shall determine the procedure whereby such places are to be visited by members of public monitoring committees.

Article 27. Entry into force of the present Federal Law

The present Federal Law shall enter into force from 1 September 2008.

President
of the Russian Federation
D. MEDVEDEV

Moscow, Kremlin
10 June 2008
No. 76-FZ
