

The RA Criminal Code

Article 148.

Refusal to provide information to a person.

Illegal refusal by an official to provide information or materials to a person immediately concerning his rights and legal interests and collected in accordance with established procedure, or provision of incomplete or willfully distorted information, if this damaged the person's rights and legal interests, is punished with a fine in the amount of 200 to 400 minimal salaries.

Article 164.

Hindrance to the legal professional activities of a journalist

1. Hindrance to the legal professional activities of a journalist, or forcing the journalist to disseminate information or not to disseminate information, is punished with a fine in the amount of 200 to 400 minimal salaries.
2. The same actions committed by an official abusing one's official position, is punished with a fine in the amount of 400 to 700 minimal salaries or imprisonment for the term of up to 3 years, by deprivation of the right to hold certain posts or practice certain activities for up to 3 years, or without that.
3. The actions envisaged in parts 1 and 2 of this Article, committed by using violence dangerous for life or health of a journalist or his/her relative or threat of using violence is punished with imprisonment for the term of 3 to 7 years.

Article 278.

Concealing information about circumstances dangerous for human life or health

1. Concealing or distortion of facts, phenomena or events dangerous for human life or health, or the environment, committed by a person in charge of providing such information to the population, is punished with a fine in the amount of 200 to 400 minimal salaries, or with imprisonment for the term of up to 2 years, or with or without deprivation of the right to hold certain posts or practice certain activities for 3 years.
2. The same action which:
 - 1) was committed by abuse of official position;

2) caused damage to human health or death, by negligence, is punished with a fine in the amount of up to 300-500 minimal salaries, or with imprisonment for the term of 2-6 years, or with or without deprivation of the right to hold certain posts or practice certain activities for 3 years.

Article 282.

Willful distortion or concealing of information about pollution of environment

1. Concealing from people information about environmental pollution dangerous for life and health through radioactive, chemical, bacteriological materials, or providing obviously false information about such pollution, by an official, is punished with a fine in the amount of 300 to 500 minimal salaries, or with deprivation of the right to hold certain posts or practice certain activities from 2 to 5 years.

2. The same action when it negligently caused human death, mass diseases in people, mass death of animals or other grave consequences, is punished with imprisonment for the term of 2 to 6 years, with deprivation of the right to hold certain posts or practice certain activities for up to 3 years.