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RUSSIA: TRADITIONAL VALUES PROMOTED AGAINST OUTSIDE INFLUENCES IN STATE CULTURAL POLICY DRAFT



The importance of traditional spiritual and moral values, including the centrality of traditional marriage and families, is heavily emphasized in the proposed updated version of the Fundamentals of Russian State Cultural Policy.

The proposed changes to the legal document that has defined the main directions of state cultural policy since it came into force in December 2014 are largely aimed at the negative influence of other states, transnational corporations, and other organizations, reports Interfax-Religion.

As noted in the explanatory note, the need to adjust the text is due to the changes that occurred both in Russia and on the international stage in 2014-2021.

Thus, it’s proposed to introduce a definition of “traditional Russian spiritual and moral values” and to identify the protection of traditional family values and the institution of marriage as the union of a man and woman as a principle of Russian cultural policy.

Additionally, children are identified “as the most important priority of state cultural

policy.”

The document also suggests specifically pointing out the activities of a number of unfriendly states, transnational corporations, foreign NGOs, and extremist and terrorist organizations aimed at undermining Russia’s cultural sovereignty and traditional Russian spiritual and moral values.

In the summer of 2020, 78% of Russians backed a constitutional reform package that included constitutionally defining marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

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