

United Russia Deputy Wants Journalists to Wear Matching Uniforms

By The Moscow Times

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United Russia deputy Boris Reznik has proposed that journalists be obligated to wear identical uniforms at public events and in war zones, a news report said Friday.

"Press members ...wear a variety of ponchos and jackets with "Press" written on them. This lack of coordination creates complications for both press members and law enforcement officials. For the latter, it is very difficult to orientate oneself among the great variety of outfits and distinguish between similar vests worn by employees of other agencies like utility workers and so on," the deputy said, Izvestia reported.

The Communications and Press Ministry reportedly agrees with Reznik on the matter and is in the process of developing a common standard.

"We surveyed people in the media industry about this. On the whole, there are no problems with equipping journalists with the apparel; most newspapers already do that. But we support

the idea of having a common standard," Alexei Volin, deputy head of the Communications and Press Ministry, said in comments carried by Izvestia.

Reznik, a former investigative reporter for Izvestia, proposed issuing blue uniforms to match the color of UN peacekeepers' uniforms.

The ministry is currently consulting media executives on the matter and says it might include the new requirements in the Labor Code.

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