

AIR CODE¹

CHAPTER I. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Article 1. The complete and exclusive sovereignty over the airspace of the U.S.S.R. shall belong to the U.S.S.R.

Airspace of the U.S.S.R. shall be deemed to be the airspace above the land and water territory of the U.S.S.R. including the space above the territorial waters as determined by the laws of the U.S.S.R. and by international treaties concluded by the U.S.S.R.

Article 2. The Air Code shall determine the activities of the civil aviation and civil aeronautics in order to protect state interests, to secure the safety of air flight and to meet the needs of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. and that of its citizens.

Article 3. The Air Code of the U.S.S.R. shall apply to:

1) all categories of civil aviation and civil aeronautics within the boundaries of the U.S.S.R., with the exception of aviation and aeronautics of the aviation industry intended for design testing, experimental and research work, aircraft of the aviation industry undergoing tests, and aviation of the All-Union Voluntary Society for the Protection of the Army, the Air Force and the Navy;

2) all civil aircraft entered in the Government Register for Civil Aircraft of the U.S.S.R. (Article 10), during the time when they are beyond the boundaries of the U.S.S.R., unless the country they are stationed in provides otherwise.

Article 4. Civil aviation and aeronautics in the U.S.S.R. shall serve the following purposes:

1) carriage of passengers, luggage, cargo, and mail;

2) performing special work in particular branches of the national economy (using aviation in agriculture, protection of forests, air photography, etc.);

3) rendering medical or other aid to the population and carrying out sanitary measures;

4) performing tests, experimental, and scientific research work;

5) training, cultural, [public] instruction and sports purposes.

Article 5. The main agency to whose jurisdiction civil aircraft owned by the State as well as airports, airdromes and ground facilities are subject, shall be the Main Administration for Civil Aviation attached to the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.²

Other government organizations may have jurisdiction over, and cooperative and public organizations [may have] ownership of civil aircraft, ground facilities necessary for carrying out of their tasks and operate airdromes, only with permission of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.

Article 6. The Main Administration for Civil Aviation attached to the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., in accordance with this Air Code and the basic flight rules in the airspace of the U.S.S.R. (Article 69), shall issue rules, directives and instructions mandatory for all government, cooperative and public organizations concerning operation of airdromes and airports, flight of civil aircraft, carriage

¹In effect as of January 1, 1962. Pub. in *Vedomosti* (U.S.S.R. Law Gazette) No. 52. Dec. 29, 1961. Item No. 538.

²See note 1, Preliminary Note, *supra*.