

January 21, 2013 Press release as a reminder of the obligations arising from election legislation

The Broadcasting Council of the Republic of Macedonia once again reminds television and radio stations that in the period to the start of the election campaign they must not transmit content that directly or indirectly promotes positions, programmes, platforms, achievements, activities etc. of political parties, coalitions, groups of voters and their representatives.

It is also not allowed to broadcast paid political advertising or announcements and advertisements of state authorities, authorities of the municipalities and the City of Skopje, funded by the Budget of RM, the budgets of municipalities and the City of Skopje.

Broadcasters should focus the reporting on preparations for elections, that is, election activities before the start of the election campaign of political parties, coalitions, groups of voters and their representatives, in daily information programmes (news and central information programmes). Elections may also be subject to special information programmes, but if politicians participate in them – they should ensure equal representation of political entities from the government and the opposition. In the specific information programmes candidates confirmed by the competent election authorities may not participate.

In accordance with the Election Code, infringement procedures will be initiated against the media that will not respect the election legislation in the period before the start of the

election campaign.