



АГЕНЦИЈА ЗА АУДИО И
АУДИОВИЗУЕЛНИ МЕДИУМСКИ УСЛУГИ



NEWSLETTER

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Publication on “Media Regulatory Authorities and Hate Speech” Launched



On 12 April, the Agency organized a conference dedicated to “Hate Speech in the Media”. At this event, it launched a publication titled “Media Regulatory Bodies and Hate Speech”, which conveys comparative data about the legislations of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Serbia, Croatia and Montenegro related to hate speech, the competencies of the regulatory bodies, their setups and some typical individual examples.

The concrete examples of dealing with this issue were presented by Emilija Petreska-Kamenjarova of the Agency for Audio and Audiovisual Media Services, Asja Roksha-Zubcevic of the Regulatory Agency for Communications of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Stanislav Bender of the Agency for Electronic Media from Croatia. Also discussed at the Conference were the stereotypes, discrimination and hate speech concerning Roma and the LGBTI Community.

Students of the Faculty of Economy in Skopje Visit the Agency



Students of the Economy Department at the Faculty of Economy, “Ss Cyril and Methodius University” in Skopje paid a visit to the Agency for Audio and Audiovisual Media Services on 24 April 2018, as part of their practical tuition within the frameworks of the subject of state regulation. During the visit, the students were acquainted with the competences and the most important aspects of the Agency’s everyday operations – the types of supervision and the manner of their implementation, granting of radio and television broadcasting licenses, activities for promoting media literacy and gender equality, imposing measures against the broadcasters, the operators of public electronic communication networks and the print media, as well as with their most frequent violations in 2016 and 2017.

Анализа за преземените мерки кон радиодифузерите, кабелските оператори и издавачите на печатени медиуми за 2017г.

Агенцијата во април ја објави Анализата за сите преземени мерки и за најчестите прекршувања од страна на радиодифузерите, операторите на јавна електронска комуникациска мрежа и издавачите на печатени медиуми за 2017 година. Предмет на анализата се мерките кои регулаторното тело во рамките на своите законски надлежности, ги презеде кон радиодифузерите, кабелските оператори и издавачите на печатени медиуми, за констатирани повреди на ЗАВМУ, прописите донесени врз основа на него, условите и обврските од дозволиите, како и на Законот за медиуми. Во фокусот на анализата се и постапувањата на Агенцијата произлезени од следењето на изборното медиумско претставување за време на Локалните избори кои се одржаа во 2017 година.

Agency Publishes Data on Radio Stations’ Reach and Television Stations’ Share in Total Viewership – Q 1 2018

The Agency had an analysis prepared for its needs concerning the radio stations’ reach and television stations’ share in total viewership during the first quarter of 2018. The data collected through the analysis are available at the Agency’s website www.avmu.mk.

Study Conducted on the Justifiability of Announcing a Public Competition on Granting a State-Level License for TV Broadcasting Via A Digital Terrestrial Multiplex

In April, the Agency had a Study prepared for the need of establishing the justifiability of announcing a public competition to grant a state-level license for TV broadcasting via a digital terrestrial multiplex. The Study is available at the website www.avmu.mk.

Brussels Noted Agency’s Proactive Approach

In its latest Progress Report on the Republic of Macedonia, the European Commission assessed that the Agency had “continued to be proactive in reminding media outlets about their legal obligations and enhancing its cooperation with civil society organizations”. The document also noted that the media regulator had initiated the formation of a network for media literacy, involving various actors from both the state and the civil society sectors. In this regard, the Commission stated that it was necessary to develop a more systematic approach and cooperation among the stakeholders on the media sphere and on digital literacy. As regards the financing of the public broadcasting service, the Agency and the public enterprise for broadcasting (*Makedonska radiodifuzija*) from the Budget of the Republic of Macedonia, the European Commission recommended to stop delaying the fund transfers.



NEWSLETTER

Supervisions

Regular Supervisions

Regular programme and administrative supervision was conducted over the work of the national television stations – both terrestrial and those via the OPECN. The programme supervision concerned the rules for airing audiovisual commercial communications, minors' protection and originally made programme. Due to failure to observe the provisions on protecting juvenile audience, warning measures were imposed against Telma TV, Kompani 21-M TV and Art Channel TV. The administrative supervision referred to the obligations to air an Impressum, the broadcaster's identification sign and information that should be made available to the users. Due to failure to publish an Impressum, warning measures were imposed against Shenja TV, Art Channel TV, Nova TV and Alsat-M TV, while Alsat-M TV also received a warning measure due to failure to provide information that should be made available to the users.

Administrative supervision was conducted over all 124 broadcasters, concerning their obligation to publish data about their ownership structure, editors and sources of financing in 2017 within their programmes by 31 March 2018 at the latest. Due to failure to observe this obligation, RTV Orbis from Bitola, and Televizija KANAL-21 from Veles were imposed warning measures. All 124 broadcasters were also subjected to supervision concerning their obligation to submit, by means of duly filled-in forms, data about their ownership structure, editors, sources of financing and their revenues and expenditures in 2017, by 31 March 2018 at the latest. This obligation had not been met by Orbis RTV from Bitola, Skaj Radio Plus from Berovo, TV Gurra from Kichevo and Radio Lav from Ohrid. Administrative supervision was conducted over all broadcasters that had been airing radio and TV programme in 2017, concerning the requirement to submit to the Agency written reports on the fulfillment of their obligations specified in the radio or television broadcasting licenses – the implementation of their programming concepts, in particular – by 31 March 2018 at the latest. A total of 43 broadcasters had failed to meet this legal provision.

Ad Hoc Supervisions

Supervision was conducted over all broadcasters that had been airing radio and TV programme in 2017, to verify if they had made any changes to their ownership structure without having notified the Agency. The supervision found no such violation with any of the broadcasters.

On two occasions, ad hoc administrative supervision was conducted over Radio Slobodna Makedonija concerning the latter's fulfilment of the obligations arising from the Rulebook on Minimum Technical, Spatial, Financial and Staffing Conditions Required for Obtaining a Radio or Television Broadcasting License. The first time, the supervision found that the broadcaster had met the required minimum staffing conditions, but this was not the case during the second supervision. This broadcaster was subjected to ad hoc programme supervision also regarding its obligation to carry out 80 % of the programming concept it had been granted the license for. Due to disregard for this obligation, the Agency imposed a warning measure.

As regards the obligations arising from the Rulebook on Minimum Technical, Spatial, Financial and Staffing Conditions Required for Obtaining a Radio or Television Broadcasting License, the Agency conducted supervision over Televizija Nova as well. No violations were detected. Televizija Nova also underwent supervision regarding its obligation to carry out 80 % of the programming concept it had been granted the license for, and it was found that the broadcaster had not met this obligation.

The Agency conducted supervision over the show "House of Soccer", aired by 24 Vesti TV, regarding the observance of Article 48 of the LAAVMS (specific prohibitions). No violation was detected.

Control Supervisions

The Agency conducted control programme supervision over Nova TV concerning its observance of the obligation to air music in the Macedonian language or the languages of the communities living in the RM, which indicated that the broadcaster had acted in full compliance with the previously imposed warning measure.

The Agency conducted regular programme supervision over ONE.VIP, SKREMBL, IP SISTEMS, VVV-INTERNET GRUP, KABLEKALL and DIGI PLUS MULTIMEDIA cable operators concerning their observance of the obligation to register their programming services with the Agency and provide Macedonian-language subtitles or subtitles in the language of the community that does not constitute a majority in the Republic of Macedonia. The supervision found that the cable operators had acted in tune with the provisions laid down in the LAAVMS.

As regards the obligations relating to cinematographic works, minors' protection and promoting production of and access to European works, the Agency conducted regular programme supervision over the work of Makedonski Telekom AD Skopje. The supervision did not find any violations of the relevant legal provisions.

Ad hoc administrative supervision was conducted over the "Leona" monthly magazine, regarding its obligation to publish an Impressum. Due to failure to meet this obligation, it was imposed a warning measure. Due to failure to publish data about the ownership structure in one of the dailies and then send a clipping of the announcement to the Agency, the publisher of Porta 3 Magazine, Biro Pres Skopje, was imposed a warning measure, as well.

