**Public Competition Announced on Granting Local Radio Broadcasting License**

The Agency for Audio and Audiovisual Media Services announced a public competition for granting a license to a non-profit broadcasting institution intended for the student population, in Albanian and Macedonian, which would be broadcasting programme in the Tetovo area. The deadline for submitting applications for this public competition is 8 October 2020.

The application form to take part in the public competition is available at [www.avmu.mk](http://www.avmu.mk). The documentation required for the competition can be collected at the Agency’s Archive and Mail Office every work day, from 8:00 hrs until 16:00 hrs following previous payment of the application fee.

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**Decision Adopted to Grant Regional TV Broadcasting License via PECN**

At its 31st session, held on 19 August 2020, the Agency Council adopted, upon an application submitted by the “M NET-HD DOO import-export Stip” Trade, Manufacturing and Services Company, a Decision to grant a television broadcasting license for programme service in the Macedonian language, of a general format, in which the types of programmes represented play all three media roles (informative, educational and entertaining).

The television programme service will broadcast programme via a public electronic communication network that does not use limited resources, on regional level, D3 - Turtel (Probishtip, Kochani, Makedonska Kamenica, Shtip, Cheshinovo-Obleshevo, Karbinci, Zrnovci, Vinica, Delchevo, Pehchevo and Berovo) .

**Study prepared on “Pluralism of Media Ownership in the New Media Environment**

In response to the needs of the Agency, experts Jean Francois Furnemont and Snezhana Trpevska prepared a study on “Pluralism of media ownership in the new media environment”, under the project on “Freedom of Expression and Freedom of the Media in North Macedonia (JUFREX 2)”.

The study, aims to assess the current legal provisions concerning ownership concentration in the audiovisual sector and to recommend future policy steps. As a result, amendments and supplements to the Law on Media – and the Law on Audio and Audiovisual Media Services in particular – are possible, given that the existing regulation on media ownership concentration is outdated, and these issues are gaining new meaning in the context of digital technologies, convergence, the spread of new internet media and the market and audience fragmentation.

The study is available at the website [www.avmu.mk](http://www.avmu.mk) in Macedonian and in English.

**August 2020 No. 8**

**Supervisions over Broadcasters and Operators of Public Electronic Communication Networks**

**Broadcasters**

Regular programme supervision was performed over certain television stations that broadcast programme at the regional level - Televizija 3, Shutel TV, Polog TV, KISS & MENADA TV, Kanal Vis TV and Iris TV – concerning their obligations related to the language use in the broadcasters’ programmes, broadcasting of at least 8 hours of TV programme daily, broadcasting at least 30% of originally created programme as Macedonian audio and audiovisual works. The supervision showed that the programmes of Shutel TV and Kanal Vis TV did not contain at least 30% of originally created programme as Macedonian audio and audiovisual works, nor was half of the legal minimum of these works broadcast in the period from 07:00 until 19:00 hrs. Non-compliance with the rules for language use in the programme was detected with Shutel TV, Polog TV and KISS & MENADA TV.

Regular programme supervision regarding a number of legal obligations (language use in the programme; 12 hours of TV programme to be broadcasted daily; broadcasting of at least 30% of originally created programme as Macedonian audio and audiovisual works - and, in the case of the Public Broadcasting Service - at least 40%; protection of minors; rules for broadcasting audiovisual commercial communications; use of value-added telephone services and telephone voting; the rules for broadcasting games of chance, and the obligations related to providing quizzes or other forms of viewers’ participation to win awards), was performed over Klan Makedonija TV, TV Kompani 21-M, Shenja TV, Sonce TV and the two channels of the Public Broadcasting Service, MRT1 and MRT2.

The supervision showed that TV Kompani 21-M did not air the minimum of 30% of programme originally created as Macedonian audio and audiovisual works, nor did it air half of the legal minimum of these works in the period from 07:00 to 19:00 hrs. Non-compliance with the rules for language use in the programme was detected with the Second Programme Service of MRT2, and with Sonce TV. Violations of the rules for protection of the juvenile audience were found with Klan Makedonija TV and TV Kompani 21-M, while Shenja TV was found to have violated the rules for broadcasting audiovisual commercial communications.

The same broadcasters were subjected to regular administrative supervision concerning the obligations for publishing Impressums, information that should be made available to the users and for publishing the broadcaster’s ID code. The supervision found no violations.

The Agency also performed one control programme supervision over Alfa TV, in order to determine whether it had acted upon the Decision to take up the measure of public warning, issued for broadcasting programme in Serbian without providing translation into Macedonian. The supervision showed that the entity had acted upon the public warning measure in full.

**Operators of Public Electronic Communication Networks**

Regular programme supervision was performed over several operators of public electronic communication networks - IP Systems from Kumanovo, Kabel AS KTV from Makedonski Brod, Kanal 16 from Resen, Multimedia-NET, A1 Makedonija and Makedonski Telekom from Skopje, ROBI from Shtip and KABEL Strumica, concerning the rules for registration of the programme services in the Agency and for subtitling of the programmes transmitted by the operators.

No violations of the rules were found during the supervisions.

