**World Radio Day Dedicated to the Century-long Existence of This Medium**

13 February 2021, marked the 10th anniversary of the World Radio Day under the UNESCO auspices, and the century-long existence of the radio, under the motto “New World, New Radio.”

This year’s subthemes of the WRD reflected the key features of the radio: Evolution, Innovation, and Connection.

In the past 100 years, the radio has managed to adapt to the rhythm of social and technological transformations, as well as to the needs of its listeners. Due to its ability to develop and connect through times of natural disasters, socio-economic crises, pandemics, etc., and be accessible everywhere, it is still one of the most utilized media across the world.

The Agency for Audio and Audiovisual Media Services congratulated the World Radio Day to all radio stations in the country and invited them to join in the celebration in an appropriate way, through debates and discussions.

**Press Release**

On 27 February 2021, the Agency for Audio and Audiovisual Media Services strongly condemned the attack on the journalists and the obstruction of their work during the protests against the verdict on the “Monster” case.

The Agency’s press release issued on this occasion pointed out that any form of attack against media workers, be it verbal or physical, as well as any obstruction of their work, was a threat to the freedom of information and the right to know and, as such, was absolutely unacceptable. The Agency appealed one more time that media workers be provided with free, unhindered and safe access to all events, especially those of public interest.

On 17 February 2021, Agency Director Zoran Trajchevski had a working meeting with EU Ambassador David Geer, at which they discussed a number of issues related to the competencies of the Agency.

**EU Ambassador David Geer Pays Working Visit to AAAVMU**

**** The focus of the meeting was placed on the ongoing process of amending the Electoral Code, the Agency’s activities resulting from the media laws and its capacity to implement the same, the planned media reforms, and the need to harmonize domestic media legislation with the Directive on European Audio and Audiovisual Media Services.

At the end of the meeting, it was concluded that mutual cooperation was of crucial importance and that this practice should continue in the future.

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**Supervisions over Broadcasters, Print Media and Operators of Public electronic Communication Networks**

**Broadcasters**

Regular programme and administrative supervision with regard to a number of legal obligations – the publishing of an Impressum, information that should be made available to the users, publishing of the broadcaster’s identification, the use of language in broadcasters' programmes, broadcasting of at least 12 hours of programme, broadcasting of at least 30% od originally created programme, protection of minors from programmes that could do harm to their physical, mental or moral development, the rules for broadcasting audiovisual commercial communications, the obligations concerning the provision of quizzes or other forms of prize-winning participation, use of value-added telephone services and telephone voting and broadcasting games of chance - was performed on Klan Macedonia TV, Sonce TV, Company 21-M TV and Shenja TV.

The supervision showed that, on 11 February 2021, Klan TV Macedonia had failed, in some of the programmes it aired, to publish the data on the authors who prepared the contents, the editors, the origin and the date of production of the works, the name of the media outlet from which it had taken over the content, and other data that the television station is obliged to air at an appropriate place for each content of the programme service, while on 12 February 2021, Company 21-M TV had failed to broadcast at least 30% of programme originally created as Macedonian audiovisual works.

In order to determine whether they had acted upon the imposed public warning measures, issued due to various legal violations, control programme and administrative supervision was performed on Television Plus, Iris TV, Spectra TV and Uskana Media TV. The supervision over Iris TV from Shtip, regarding the rules for protection of juvenile audience, showed that despite the decision on imposing a public warning measure, the broadcaster had continued to disregard these legal obligations. The remaining broadcasters had fully acted upon the decisions for imposing public warning measures.

After receiving a complaint from a natural person regarding the feature series titled "Bitter Earth" and "Angels", aired by Sitel TV, an ad hoc programme supervision was performed over the observance of the obligations for minors’ protection. No violations were found during the supervision.

**Print media**

Regular administrative supervision regarding the obligations for publishing an Impressum was performed over several print media outlets – Kapital, Bitolski Vesnik, M Magazin, Auto Plus, Jeni Balkan, Bahce, Dobra Hrana, Shenja, In Store, Skopsko Eho, Lice v Lice, Nova Makedonija, Sloboden Pecat, Vecer, Koha, Lajm, Focus, Zenit, Yeni Balkan Haftalik Bulletin, Stipski Glas, Porta, Economija i Biznis and Zelena Berza. The supervision found no violations of the Law on Media.

**Operators of Public Electronic Communication Networks**

Regarding the obligations related to the registration of programme services with the Agency and providing subtitles for the programmes retransmitted by the operators, regular programme supervision was performed over the following operators: Infel-KTV, Ip Systems, Spajder-Net, Skupi Kable, Robi and Multimedia-Net. The supervision concluded that the operator Infel-KTV from Ohrid had been retransmitting programme services that had not been covered by the programme package registration certificates issued by the Agency.

Due to this violation of the Law on AAVMS, at its 6th session held on 24 February 2021, the Agency Council adopted a decision on issuing a public warning and termination of the retransmission of programme services on the part of the Infel-KTV operator from Ohrid.

