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PARLIAMENTARY SEMINAR ON THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE MEDIA

**Hosted by the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina
and jointly organised with
the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe**

Sarajevo, 29 May 2017

SUMMARY REPORT

Prepared by Mr Rast'o Kužel*
General Rapporteur for the seminar, Executive Director of MEMO 98, Bratislava

VENUE:

National Assembly
of Bosnia and Herzegovina
“White room”
Trg Bosne i Hercegovine 1
71000 Sarajevo

* Views expressed in this report are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the position of the Council of Europe

“Freedoms of expression and of the media promote democracy and are used as an index of general freedom of society. If we take seriously the meaning of words and if politically given promises are obligations to implementation, democracy is, so far, the best way of the free co-deciding of people upon their coexistence. Let us go a step further – democracy is a key prerequisite for freedom and freedom is a presupposition of human happiness.” Gvozden Flego, Honorary member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Croatia)

“In a democratic society, media pluralism and the diversity of its content are of paramount importance, as the public must have access to public debate, diverse views from different groups in society, including minorities, ethnic, religious, linguistic, cultural and others.” Gulsun Bilgehan, Chairperson of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey

“The prevention of undue concentration of media ownership and the full transparency of media regulation are important prerequisites of media pluralism and freedom of expression in a democratic society.” Dunja Mijatović, Communications and media expert, former OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Vienna

“BiH has the media it deserves. It is a reflection of the kind of corporatist society BiH has where political parties and other actors take it for granted that they should have an influence over public companies so why should not have they influence over public broadcasters.” Ambassador. Wigemark, Head of the European Union Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina and European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Background and rationale

The proposed seminar intended to implement the Council of Europe (CoE) Action Plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) 2015-2017, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the CoE. This Action Plan aimed at empowering parliamentarians to improve legislation and operational mechanisms in three policy areas: Media, Corruption, and Discrimination.

The second of a series of three seminars intended to provide an opportunity for enhanced dialogue “on the independence and impartiality of media”, adopting a peer-to-peer approach between parliamentarians of the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina and members of parliaments of other CoE member States. Good practices were shared and synergies created with local and international civil society and institutions in the field of media, to help promote Council of Europe standards and identify concrete areas of reform of the legislative framework in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Media ownership transparency is a necessary requirement for both, ensuring media pluralism and offering media users the possibility to use those media intelligently. Public service broadcasters (PSB) play a crucial role in a democratic society, providing unbiased information, respectful of the plurality of opinions. National parliaments have the power and responsibility to ensure that the mission, structure and funding of their public service broadcasters ensure their independence.

This parliamentary seminar aimed at providing elements for a discussion within the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding the missions of the public broadcaster and the Communications Regulatory Agency (CRA), in order to foster a pluralist media environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Short analysis of the situation

General overview

The large number of active media outlets in the Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) does not necessarily translate into more media pluralism. On the contrary, the survival of such a large number of media in all sectors on such a limited media market is seen as suggestive of political and other conflicting affiliations. The absence of the market, a strong dependence on the state funds, the existing vague regulation on unlawful concentration and hidden ownership mean that media are more dependent on state - or rather political parties. A number of speakers mentioned that BiH has liberal laws but that there is a problem with their implementation. BiH entered the CoE in 2002 and BiH was among the first member countries to decriminalise the libel in 2003. Despite these positive developments in the past, most participants opined that the current overall media situation is problematic and the country has been backsliding in the area of media independence. The European Union (EU) in particular is currently concerned in the three main areas: the protection of journalists, the reform and financing of PSB and the transparency of media ownership.

Independence of Public Service Broadcasting

The establishment of PSB in BiH under the auspices of Office of the High Representative (OHR), was an important part of normalisation of the society in the late 1990s, four or five years after the war. BHR1 started with the slogan *One radio for all*, which was not a formality but an obligation of PSB to reach different segments of society on one hand; on the other one, there was a need to have a single media outlet which would be open for different groups in a post-war situation. However, the transition from the state to public broadcasters has not been fully implemented and PSB has not been fulfilling its role as initially envisioned.

A number of participants discussed the alarming situation with PSB, particularly at BHRT which faces a serious threat of ceasing their activities in September 2017 unless its current financial situation is resolved. In this respect, the time for partial solutions is over when it comes to PSB in BiH and there is a need to develop a PSB system which would provide content promoting education, history, entertainment, cultural and other values. It is important for the politicians to understand that it is incumbent upon the state to protect PSB and an open dialogue between politicians, media and CSOs is a good starting point in the process of resolving the current situation. It is important to return to the BHR radio slogan (*One radio for all*) and promote it.

While there is the 2005 PSB law, it has not been properly implemented for the last 12 years. It defined three public service broadcasters – two at the entity level and one at the state level – and their coexistence was based on cooperation and respect for each other, producing the kind of programs which would not be in competition but rather complementary, so that as wide a target group as possible would be reached. While the law laid the framework for a close cooperation amongst the three public broadcasters, the idea of synergy does not exist anymore nowadays. The role of OHR was important at that time. After this initial stage, which did not last for too long, there was a period of mutual tolerance and acceptance until very recently, when a period of mutual accusations has started. While the law envisions financial, managerial and editorial independence of PSB, all of these three pillars are currently under question. By law, all three public service broadcasters are funded both by the RTV tax[†] and advertising. Entity broadcasters are in charge of collecting the tax and are obliged to distribute it. There are differences in the way how the entity broadcasters collect the tax. While RTRS has developed its own agreement with the RS Postal

[†] The RTV tax is a term used in the original legal text drafted by the OHR stipulating that it is not a subscription fee but rather a sort of a tax paid on owning an RTV receiver.

Services, its legality is under question, as any system of collection must be agreed by the PBS System Board. Regrettably, the number of people paying the tax has been dropping and that is why it is **irresponsible that some politicians in BiH publicly call for non-payment of the RTV tax which is unacceptable.**

There have been at least 17 letters from European Broadcasting Union (EBU) in the past years to BiH authorities in relation to the situation with PSB, without a single response from the BiH side (in the last two years, there have been improvements in the communication but still no concrete results). There is a real danger that the BHRT will have to close down its operations in September 2017. Some participants focused on the independence problems of one of the entity broadcasters and the fact that PSBs are in the hands of political parties. **All participants agreed that resolving the current crisis of PSB is purely a matter of political will.**

There was also a discussion on the current ratings for PSB but it was stressed that while ratings are important, it is more important to look at the credibility which particularly BHRT appears to have in the society thanks to its impartial reporting.

In resolving the current crisis and in defining the future remit of PSB, it is important to ask: should PSB serve the people or the politicians? Up until now, as suggested by different monitoring exercises and analysis, BHRT has been impartial. But if the bad situation continues, it will have an impact on the editorial independence. According to data which BHRT sends to EBU, **BHRT is not able to survive financially beyond September 2017. It is also possible that EBU might suspend BiH membership in EBU.** It should be mentioned that BiH CSOs have been very active on this issue. At the same time, the issue of resolving the situation with PSB has been 15 times on the agenda of the Communications Committee of the BiH Parliament. In the end, the Committee failed to contribute to resolving of the issue in any way. Similarly, the Ministry of Transport and Communications has also failed to present its own proposal. As for the PSB subscription fee, if 95% of those who are supposed to pay will pay it and if it is to be distributed according to the law (50% BHRTV and 25% for entity broadcasters), there would be a surplus.

Legal standards for media transparency and pluralism

BiH has badly suffered the consequences of this crisis and the outflow of advertising money, with the sources of revenues for the media shrinking. The difficult economic situation, worsened by further withdrawals of international funding for media outlets, has resulted in diminished independence of the media from political and commercial influences. The current fragmentation of the media market along the administrative and ethnic lines does not help the media environment either. While in general the country has good quality media laws, they are to some extent perverted through weak implementation mechanisms. When it comes to the concentration of ownership, however, it has been completely unregulated since 2006, when the Rules on Media Concentration and Ownership of Electronic and Print Media (adopted in 2004) expired.

As such, the ownership is currently largely unregulated, with transparency of ownership addressed only by the general requirement for business registration. Ownership structure is reported to the media regulator for the needs of the television and radio licensing procedure, as is any change in the ownership structure involving more than five per cent of shares. Such changes need to be approved by the regulator beforehand. The information on real owners can be concealed easily, which prevents the public to have a systematic insight into the ownership structure. While there is the Law on Competition which is relevant for all business sectors, the Council of Competition only responds to specific complaints and does not generally act on their own initiative. Some transparency of ownership is assured through the possibility to retrieve documents from court registries relating to all businesses, including media outlets. These documents are scattered across some 15 registries in different parts of the country and available only after payment of court fees. Not all information on ownership is available online, but there is a valuable online registry of businesses.

The regulation preventing a conflict of interest in case a state official holds an interest in a media organisation cannot prevent indirect influence on editorial policy through hidden ownership. The legal provisions limiting foreign ownership of the media appear to be problematic given that a foreign actor who starts a company in the country can indirectly own an entire media outlet.[‡] Ownership transparency is especially problematic when it comes to online media. There are no standards for ownership data publication on the websites of these media, and these data are in some cases hard to obtain because certain websites operate as media outlets but are not officially registered as media businesses, which hinders the implementation of self-regulatory professional norms among other things.

The participants discussed the issue of pluralism and transparency of media ownership and concluded that while there is pluralism in BiH media, the recent trends are worrisome and that there is a need for a comprehensive law that would cover all owners and stakeholders. The CRA wanted to extend their public register of licensees and wanted to add data on media ownership (all levels of ownership) but the Agency for the Protection of Personal Data said, according to the CRA, that personal data can only be disclosed when there is a public interest and legal grounds. The agency found no public interest in disclosing the ownership data. CRA will seek the opinion from the Ministry of Justice.

A consortium of NGOs and a professional media association - Media Centar Sarajevo, Press Council, NGO JaBiHEU and BiH Journalists - have been implementing an EU-funded project which aims to establish transparency in media ownership, media funding and advertising in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The project was mentioned as a good example of the excellent work done by BiH civil society in the area of media regulation.

The existing rules on foreign ownership and on conflict of interest can be compromised without actually violating the laws. The public availability of media ownership information is essential for democracy and any democratic media system. It can be used as a valuable and efficient tool to identify the media owners and guarantee that abuses of media power can be evaluated, publicised, openly debated, and even prevented. It is important to ensure public access to detailed information regarding the involvement of individuals and of legal entities in the ownership structures of the media and on the nature and extent of their respective involvement. Transparency of media ownership is not only important for the authorities in charge of implementing regulations concerning media pluralism so they can take informed decisions, but also for the public to make its own analysis of the information, ideas and opinions expressed by the media.

The role of media regulators in a democratic society

The CRA was established in 2001 combining the competences of the Independent Media Commission and the Telecommunications Regulatory Agency, which had previously operated separately. In this respect, BiH was among the first countries in the region to establish a convergence agency. The CRA operates on the state level, and its mandate is defined by the Law on Communications of Bosnia and Herzegovina (the Official Gazette of Bosnia and Herzegovina, no.31/03), which was originally imposed by the Decision of the High Representative in October 2002, and the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted it in September 2003.

The CRA is a regulator with combined competencies and reflects the convergence of technologies in telecommunications and broadcasting in a way that can respond to market needs. At the

[‡] There are at least two cases whereby a media outlet is owned by a domestic company which is owned by foreign entities. There appears to be a legal loophole that indirectly allows for unrestricted foreign ownership.

beginning of its existence, the CRA mainly dealt with problems of hate speech and impartiality. During this time, the whole media sector, including the CRA, was under a strong guidance from the international community which either imposed or created a number of media laws. Once the scene was set, the international community withdrew which coincided with the April 2006 attempt to change the Constitution. The failure to change it had brought upon a lasting political crisis, which in part had an impact on the CRA operations (for example, between 2007 and 2016, CRA had to operate without a legally appointed director due to the failure of the authorities to finalise the appointment procedure). Over time, the situation has become increasingly difficult and prevented CRA from doing their job of regulation in a proper way. The situation has somewhat improved since the appointment of the director, but is still far from ideal as CRA continues to face challenges, primarily related to its financial independence.

General conclusions and recommendations

1. BiH politicians should stop publicly declaring that they are not paying the PSB subscription fees;
2. There is an urgent need to provide immediate financial support to PSB: to come with a short term financial solution and only then to deal with a longer term systematic one for the PSB;
3. The 2005 Law on PSB should be amended or a new law drafted to reflect on the new changes in the media;
4. There is a need for a new legislative framework regulating PSB in BiH;
5. PSB should not be susceptible to market and economic challenges as it needs to remain the voice of voiceless and offer programs for minorities; As media pluralism in BiH is at risk, the current situation is clearly not in the interest of all citizens who are unable to have a real debate;
6. There is a need to protect PSB against political influence and safeguard financial, managerial and editorial independence;
7. The Government is responsible for safeguarding the independence of PSB;
8. The Ministry of Communications and Transport should not wait for an initiative (request) from PSB to start working on a new PSB law. The Ministry should come up with a new legal initiative to resolve the PSB situation;
9. The inter-sectorial working group set up for PSB should start working;
10. Consideration could be given to creating a parliamentary committee to deal with the media;
11. Consideration could be given to creating a media department at the Ministry of Communications and Transport (in other countries, the media agenda is usually under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture);
12. Consideration could be given to conducting a survey on PSB trust and credibility;
13. There are a few excellent local internationally acknowledged experts in the media field – such as Dunja Mijatović – who should be included in the processes to resolve the current crisis and whose advice would be valuable when trying to find long-term solutions;
14. The activities through the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe should continue in a view to resolving the current PSB crisis;
15. The international community should be involved in helping to resolve the current crisis in PSB;
16. There is no need to change the law when it comes to the collection of subscription fees as under the current law the PSBs can choose the system of collection they wish (including by attaching it to the electricity bill);
17. If the media situation continues to deteriorate or it does not improve, the EU membership application of BiH may suffer as a result;
18. The lack of transparency is a typical way to mask political or business interests in controlling large media groups. It is important to take appropriate measures to ensure transparency and pluralism of the media and to promote journalistic standards;
19. BiH should adopt clear rules to limit the influence that the same person, company or group can exercise in one or more media sectors. The authorities responsible for implementing these rules should be vested with the necessary powers to carry out their tasks, in particular

- the power to refuse authorisations or licenses, and to act when unacceptable levels of concentration are reached or that media pluralism is threatened;
20. The legal framework should be adapted to economic, social and technological developments, particularly in the light of digital convergence and transition. Moreover, the rules should be adapted to the size and specificities of the national, regional or local market for audio-visual and written media;
 21. The adoption of a sound legal framework is a decisive step on the road to true ownership transparency. But this is only the first step. Equally decisive is the effective application of legal rules by an independent and effective regulatory body, cooperative media organisations and vigilant watch groups within civil society;
 22. BiH Parliament should make every effort to formulate, adopt and apply the appropriate legislative frameworks and contribute to a real culture of transparency in general, and in the media field in particular;
 23. The register of broadcasters on the media regulator's website at the moment does not include the ownership data. It includes only data on editors and directors. In this respect, it would be good to have a policy on ownership transparency that would foresee the tracking of both the origin of capital as well as the hidden owners. As CRA is willing to publish such information, it is important for the Agency of Personal Data Protection to reconsider its current position when it comes to the disclosure of media ownership data;
 24. It would be useful if the legal initiative which is with the Ministry of Communications and Transport united efforts with the consortium of NGOs which work on the law on transparency of media ownership;
 25. The CoE or the EU should organise a seminar on the issue of transparency of media ownership and invite relevant stakeholders to discuss and clarify the current position of the Agency for Personal Data Protection: protecting privacy is important but disclosing ownership data is in public interest;
 26. In preparation of the new Law on Electronic media, the Ministry of Communications and Transport should consider opinions of various involved stakeholders, including CRA, particularly when it comes to keeping the agency's ability to adopt bylaws;
 27. There is a need to safeguard financial and political independence of CRA;
 28. The overall environment in which the BiH media currently operates prevents it from holding those in power to account, and from providing citizens with quality independent news reporting. When the media is unable to fulfil their basic functions, the society cannot properly voice its concerns or canalise its discontent through peaceful, institutionalised means. Until this fundamental right is guaranteed, a more democratic BiH remains a distant prospect.

APPENDIX:

- I. Background documents
- II. Programme
- III. List of participants

APPENDIX I – BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

- [PACE Resolution 2065 \(2015\) on Increasing transparency of media ownership](#)
- [Recommendation 2074 \(2015\) on Increasing transparency of media ownership](#)
- [Reply to Recommendation 2074 \(2015\) on Increasing transparency of media ownership](#)
- [PACE Recommendation 1878 \(2009\) on the funding of public service broadcasting](#)
- [Reply to Recommendation 1878 \(2009\) on the funding of public service broadcasting](#)
- [PACE Recommendation 1641 \(2004\) on Public service broadcasting](#)
- [PACE Information note \(14 August 2014\) by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Sarajevo and Travnik \(6 – 9 July 2014\) on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)
- [Conclusions of the Conference “Public Service Media and Democracy”, Prague \(10-11 November 2016\)](#)

Committee of Ministers

- [GR-DEM\(2016\)14 Bosnia and Herzegovina: Compliance with obligations and commitments](#)
- [Recommendation \(2012\)1 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on public service media governance \(2012\)](#)
- [Recommendation \(2007\)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the remit of public service media in the information society \(2007\)](#)
- [Recommendation \(2007\)2 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on media pluralism and diversity of media content \(2007\)](#)
- [Recommendation rec \(2000\) 23 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the independence and functions of regulatory authorities for the broadcasting sector \(20 December 2000\)](#)
- [Recommendation no. R\(96\)10 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the “The Guarantee of the Independence of Public Service Broadcasting” \(1996\)](#)
- [Declaration of the Committee of Ministers on the guarantee of the independence of public service broadcasting in the member states \(2006\)](#)
- [Declaration of the Committee of Ministers on protecting the role of the media in democracy in the context of media concentration \(2007\)](#)
- [Declaration of the Committee of Ministers on public service media governance \(2012\)](#)

Other

- [Council of Europe Publication on Standards related to media](#)
- [Commissioner for Human rights’ webpage on media freedom](#)

APPENDIX II – PROGRAMME

9.30 – 9.50 *Registration of participants and welcome coffee*

10.00 - 10.35 am

OPENING SESSION

Welcome by **Mr Senad ŠEPIĆ**, Member of the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Chairperson of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

Ms Borjana KRIŠTO, Member of the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Vice-chairperson of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

Ms Gülsün BILGEHAN, Chairperson of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey

Ambassador Drahoslav ŠTEFÁNEK, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo

10.35 - 10.45 am

PRESS CONFERENCE

10.45 am - 12.15 pm

SESSION 1: INDEPENDENCE OF PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTING

This session aims to define clearly the role, missions and responsibilities of the public service broadcaster in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to ensure its editorial, financial and managerial independence against political and economic interference.

Moderator: **Ms Gülsün BILGEHAN**, Chairperson of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey

Speakers: **Ms Senada ĆUMUROVIĆ**, Assistant Director General of BHRT (Radio and Television of Bosnia-Herzegovina)

Mr Gvozden FLEGO, Honorary member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Croatia)

Mr Boris BERGANT, Former Vice President of the European Broadcasting Union; Media Adviser, Slovenia

Discussion

12.20 – 2.00 pm *Lunch hosted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina*

2.00 - 3.30 PM

SESSION 2: LEGAL STANDARDS FOR MEDIA TRANSPARENCY AND PLURALISM

This session seeks to review the legislative framework to ensure adequate transparency of the ownership of, and influence over, media outlets (print media, film, radio, television and Internet-based media), including the disclosure of hidden ownership. The session will provide an opportunity to discuss whether proper guarantees exist, in accordance with Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights, to prevent such reporting obligations from discriminating against foreign ownership of media or to restrict the international dissemination of media products and services.

Moderator: **Ms Dunja MIJATOVIĆ**, Communications, media expert, former OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Vienna

Speakers: **Ms Gülsün BILGEHAN**, Chairperson of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey

Ambassador Lars-Gunnar WIGEMARK, Head of the European Union Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina and European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Mr Rast'o KUŽEL, General Rapporteur for the seminar, Executive Director of MEMO 98, Bratislava

Discussion

3.30 – 4.00 pm *Coffee break*

4.00 – 5.30 pm

SESSION 3: THE ROLE OF MEDIA REGULATORS IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

This session aims to discuss the role and powers of media regulators, including their political independence.

Moderator: **Mr Gvozden FLEGO**, Honorary member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Croatia)

Speakers: **Ms Helena MANDIĆ**, Director of Broadcasting, Communications Regulatory Agency, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Vice-chairperson of the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities (EPRA) in Strasbourg

Ms Dunja MIJATOVIĆ, Communications, media expert, former OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Vienna

Discussion

5.30 – 6.00 pm

CLOSING SESSION

Conclusions by: **Mr Rast'o KUŽEL**, General Rapporteur for the seminar, Executive Director of MEMO 98, Bratislava

Ms Gülsün BILGEHAN, Chairperson of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey

Mr Senad ŠEPIĆ, Member of the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Chairperson of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

6.00 – 7.30 pm *Visit of the City Hall*

APPENDIX III. LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

HOST COUNTRY

Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina			
Mr	ŠEPIĆ	Senad	Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chairperson of the Bosnia and Herzegovina delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Ms	DŽAMBAS	Zdenka	Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms	KRIŠTO	Borjana	Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Vice-chairperson of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Mr	MAGAZINović	Saša	Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and member of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Mr	NOVAKović	Momčilo	Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chair of Committee on Transport and Communication
Mr	PODŽIĆ	Sifet	Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chair of Joint Committee on Defence and Security of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr	ŠKALJIĆ	Fehim	Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms	VAJZOVIĆ	Hanka	Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Deputy-Chair of Committee on Transport and Communication
Ms	ZOVKO	Ljilja	Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr	DUBRAVKO	Brdar	Head of Cabinet of Borjana Krišto, Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr	DUVNJAK	Niko	Adviser at the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr	NINKOVIĆ	Aleksandar	Senior Adviser of the Committee on Transport and Communications of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms	MILOŠEVIĆ	Kristina	Senior Adviser of the Committee of the Foreign and Trade Policy, Customs, Transport and Communication of the House of Peoples of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr	STANIŠIĆ	Miroslav	Committee on Foreign Affairs
Representatives of the Government			
Ms	SUDŽUM	Milanka	Head of Communications Department, Ministry of Transport and Communication in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Representatives of Media and Civil Society			
Ms	ĆUMUROVIĆ	Senada	Assistant Director General of BHRT (Radio and Television of Bosnia-Herzegovina)
Ms	HADŽIOSMANOVIĆ-POPOVIĆ	Maja	Operations Manager, Foundation "Media Centre" Sarajevo
Mr	HALILOVIĆ	Mehmed	Lawyer, Journalist
Ms	JUKIĆ-MUJKIĆ	Elvira	Editor-in-Chief of Media.ba, Mediacenter Sarajevo
Ms	KULENOVIĆ	Velida	Radio Federation "Journalist Club"
Mr	KONTIĆ	Boro	Director of Mediacenter, Sarajevo
Mr	KORAČ	Predrag	Director General, RAK Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms	MANDIĆ	Helena	Director of Broadcasting, Communications Regulatory Agency, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Vice-chairperson of the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities (EPRA) in Strasbourg
Ms	ODOBAŠIĆ	Amela	Head of Public Affairs,

			RAK Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr	POVLAKIĆ	Emir	Head of Division for Licensing, Digitalization and Coordination in Broadcasting, RAK Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms	ROKŠA - ZUBČEVIĆ	Asja	Head of Division of Audiovisual Services and International Cooperation in Broadcasting
Ms	RUDIC	Borka	Secretary General, BH Journalist Association
Ms	SOKOL	Anida	Researcher, Mediacenter Sarajevo
Ms	ZUROVAC	Ljiljana	Executive Director, Press Council Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr	UDOVIČIĆ	Radenko	Director, Media plan Institute and Medijske inicijative

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Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe			
Ms	BILGEHAN	Gülsün	Chairperson of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey
Office of the Council of Europe in Bosnia and Herzegovina			
Mr	ŠTEFÁNEK	Drahoslav	Head of the Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo

OTHER ORGANISATIONS AND EXPERTS

European Union Delegation to Bosnia and Herzegovina			
Mr	AHMAGIC	Emil	Communications officer, European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina and EU Delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Ms	TABAKOVIĆ KEDIĆ	Azra	Legal adviser, European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina and EU Delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr	WIGEMARK	Lars-Gunnar	European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina and head of EU Delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina
The Office of the High Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina			
Ms	RADETIC	Ljiljana	Spokesperson - Senior Adviser on Media and External Relations
Turkish Embassy in Sarajevo			
Mr	KOÇ	Haldun	Ambassador, Turkish Embassy in Sarajevo
Ms	YILDIRIM	Ferola	Counsellor
Experts			
Mr	BERGANT	Boris	Former Vice President of the European Broadcasting Union; Media Adviser, Slovenia
Mr	FLEGO	Gvozden	Honorary member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Croatia)
Mr	KUŽEL	Rastislav	General Rapporteur for the seminar, Executive Director of MEMO 98, Bratislava
Ms	MIJATOVIĆ	Dunja	Communications, media expert, former OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Vienna

SECRETARIAT

Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina Secretariat			
Mr	BEŠIĆ	Adnan	Secretary to the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr	IMAMOVIC	Ernest	Secretary to the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Secretariat			
Mr	CIBOTARU	Eugen	Secretary to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media
Mr	DOSSOW	Rüdiger	Secretary to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons
Ms	SIPP	Kelly	Project Manager, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of

			Europe
Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo Secretariat			
Mr	HADZIC	Damir	Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo Secretariat
Ms	HARNONCOURT	Laya	Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo Secretariat
Ms	ILIOPOULOS	Spyriolon	Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo Secretariat
Mr	SOSE	Mirza	Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo Secretariat

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Ms	TANOVIC	Ulvija
Ms	SADIKOVIC	Amira
Ms	LOKVANCIC	Amir
Ms	DRINO	Almira