



Doc. 14210

29 November 2016

Media freedom as a condition for democratic elections

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Ms Gülsün BİLGEHAN and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

In accordance with Article 3 of the Protocol to the European Convention on Human Rights, member States undertake to hold free elections at reasonable intervals by secret ballot, under conditions which will ensure the free expression of the opinion of the people in the choice of the legislature. Media freedom under Article 10 of the Convention is a necessary condition in order to ensure this fundamental right to free elections.

The current change of the media landscape through rapidly expanding Internet media also changes the impact of media on the democratic decision-making process. Traditional standards need to be reviewed, for example regarding the access of political parties to broadcasting before elections.

Faced with a growing politicisation of the media as well as public accusations of media by politicians, journalists are often working under undue pressures, as noted in election observation reports by the Parliamentary Assembly.

The Assembly should therefore discuss and develop common standards and indicators for an analysis of the media situation in the context of elections and referenda.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

BİLGEHAN Gülsün, Turkey, SOC
BIES Philippe, France, SOC
BLONDIN Maryvonne, France, SOC
CILEVIČS Boriss, Latvia, SOC
CROZON Pascale, France, SOC
DESKOSKA Renata, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", SOC
DURRIEU Josette, France, SOC
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
HARANGOZÓ Gábor, Hungary, SOC
JANSSON Eva-Lena, Sweden, SOC
JENSEN Mogens, Denmark, SOC
KARLSSON Niklas, Sweden, SOC
KOÇ Haluk, Turkey, SOC
L OVOCHKINA Yuliya, Ukraine, SOC
LE DÉAUT Jean-Yves, France, SOC
MAELEN Dirk, Van der, Belgium, SOC
MAURY PASQUIER Liliane, Switzerland, SOC
MIKKO Marianne, Estonia, SOC
OHLSSON Carina, Sweden, SOC
ROUQUET René, France, SOC
SANTERINI Milena, Italy, SOC
STOILOV Yanaki, Bulgaria, SOC
SUTTER Petra, De, Belgium, SOC

1 SOC: Socialist Group