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Media News

Prepared by the
SAFAX News Agency Sarajevo
<http://www.mp-institu.com/>

- Journalism and Democracy

- Media in Transition

No 30, Vol I,

Sarajevo, April 19, 1999

431 Media Operating in Bosnia-Herzegovina

A total of 431 media were registered in Bosnia-Herzegovina by April 10 of this year. In that number, according to Independent Media Commission data, there are 206 radio stations and 76 TV stations. The Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina is in the lead with 122 radio stations and 48 television stations, while the Republika Srpska has 84 radio and 28 TV stations.

Media Plan in its database has the number of 138 print media in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Of that, 105 are in the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, and 33 media are in the Republika Srpska. This figure includes all daily, weekly and monthly newspapers and periodicals. The number of news agencies is also impressive. The Republika Srpska has five news agencies, and the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina has six.

New Media

Bosniak Television Starts Working

Big Plans

At the end of March a new medium started working on the 24th channel – Bosniak Radio Television International (BRT Int.). The television station aroused a lot of interest because its establishment officially completed the system of television and radio stations with a national, i.e., ethnic prefix in Bosnia-Herzegovina: Serb RTV Banja Luka; Bosniak TV Sarajevo; and Croatian Television from Zagreb, which, along with several local television stations, plays the role of the medium of the Bosnian-Herzegovinian Croats.

On April 8 Bosniak Television started broadcasting almost all-day programming consisting of its own and purchased production. "BRT Int" was formed by integrating Bosnian-Moslem Radio Hayat from Sarajevo and Ljiljan television, which had been established long ago, but had never started broadcasting. Mahir Zisko, former director of Hayat radio, was appointed director general.

However, the Independent Media Commission (IMC) has questioned the legality of the present "BRT Int" broadcasting. The Commission spokesperson Zinaida Babovic has told us that BRT is using a frequency that was allocated to TV Ljiljan in 1996. IMC is examining the legal basis for the new television station to succeed the frequency, as well as the fact that BRT is using a very powerful transmitter, which hampers reception of other programs for viewers living in the center of Sarajevo.

Mahir Zisko told *Media News* that the priority for the newly-formed radio and television organization is to open dialogue among all nationalities and religions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and to create a modern television constructed in line with Western standards.

Concerning the staff that will be implementing the Bosniak television project, Mahir Zisko declined to reveal details. We have found out that some journalists and production staff have come from other TV stations. The news-political program employs, among others, Adnan Kasumovic, Midhat Paravlic and Ismir Music. Religious program is edited by Mehmedalija Hadzic and Dzermaludin Latic, while music is the responsibility of the German-based "Intact Record" company. Iris Devetak-Stipic, formerly employed with RTV BiH and TV 99, is in charge of production.

Zisko says the correspondent network will make this television station particularly attractive. It is spread out over 30 countries, from Croatia, America, Turkey, England, to Saudi Arabia.

"BRT Int" is for now the only TV station in Bosnia-Herzegovina that will be broadcasting on two satellites, Eutelsat and Turksat, 24 hours a day. Contracts have been signed with many international TV organizations. Among them are the state televisions of Iran, Turkey, Egypt, Albania and Morocco, as well as the BBC, SKY and NBC.

"BRT Int" for the time being covers Sarajevo Canton and its surroundings. The station plans to cover the entire Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina with its network.

Thanks to the Soros Foundation and British Embassy, cooperation has been established with the Banja Luka-based Independent Television and is planned to extend to other media organizations in the Republika Srpska, according to Zisko.

As its long-term plan, the management has announced the publishing of a magazine called "BH Select," which is supposed to publish transcripts of cultural and entertainment radio and television programs.



Media News- all the media news of BH collected in one place.

Issued every second Monday in English and Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian. Texts by local author are published in whatever variant is appropriate to the author.

Published by **Media Plan - Safax**

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REPRODUCTION OF THE TEXTS IS PERMITTED IF BOTH THE NAME OF THE AGENCY AND NAME OF THE AUTHOR ARE SHOWN

Thanks to the Soros Open Society Fund for BiH, local media will receive this service free of charge

Media Plan's Monitoring Center has followed "BRT Int" programming in full on April 12. A short review of content and an additional commentary follows.

Own and Licensed Production

BRT Int program starts at 0815 hrs., after directly broadcasting British television SKY NEWS. The first program is short news, read by an announcer, without sound recordings or footage (only the announcer is shown). This is followed by Morning Program (announced in newspapers as Sabah Service – morning service ("sabah" in Turkish means dawn, daybreak) but the announcer does not call it that way). The program has a simple form – many videos of so-called local music bands from Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia, between which the announcer presents the usual information in such programs (state of water and electricity supply, emergency clinic situation...). The program includes a review of daily press, which is usually reduced to reading headlines, with no ambition to give more time to some interesting or significant article. It is noticeable that the scene where the announcer is shown is overcrowded (armchairs, flowers, decorated walls, coffee tables). The announcer's charm and pleasant look is lost in such an ambiance, and her messages are pushed into the background.

News is again on at 10 a.m. and their content is almost identical to the earlier news. The announcer leaves a good impression. However, on both occasions there is no mention of the NATO bombing of targets in Serbia, although that is top news. News selection and hierarchy is not professional. Some information is unnecessarily extensive. News items are presented in full in the same form they arrived in, which is not suitable for television if it is not accompanied by footage.

A half-hour bloc of folk music follows the news.

During this monitored day, three programs from the Soros Media Center video library were on air – "The 14 Kosics," a story of a family from the Republika Srpska which has 14 children; "The Culture of Living," an education program on communication made by professors from the Faculty of Political Sciences (Dizdarevic, Nuhic, Vockic-Avdagic and Baotic); "In Good Company," a British education series on science, this one dedicated to pharmaceuticals. Everyday presence of education programs, in comparison to other local television stations, gives BRT a new quality and makes it stand out.

"BRT Int" at 3 p.m. directly participates in "Sahor," an Iranian television program in the Bosnian language. For the local circumstances, this is an unusual program which has a news and religious character. In addition to news, the program features reports by Pristina and Sarajevo correspondents. The Pristina correspondent (although it is questionable whether he is reporting from Pristina or northern Albania) does not stick to information only, but also gives comments, making equibrical comparisons between Serbian and Albanian children, the conduct of NATO and Serbian forces, etc. The lady correspondent from Sarajevo offers much more information. It is interesting that her head is covered, which is unusual for female journalists in Sarajevo.

A very striking item in this Iranian program referred to relations between the United States and Iran. In it, America is called "an imperial force that oppresses smaller nations," and the United Nations is accused of being behind the recent murder of Iranian General Shirazy.

In this program Bosnia-Herzegovina is mostly viewed through a Moslem-religious prism, but the term that is used is "Bosnians." In that way, the program actually overlooks the fact that "non-Moslems" and "non-Bosniaks" make up more than 50 percent of Bosnia-Herzegovina's population, and that this creates an inaccurate picture of this country.

At 6 p.m. the station features a news program called "BRT Int," which lasts 15-20 minutes. Two moderators are shown, who present information in blocs. In addition to news agency items, the program also includes reports on news briefings. Both the moderators and

reporters have phonic voices, but they need more training and working experience (rigidity in front of camera, slips of the tongue and other mistakes, such as “Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia”...). The sports bloc is unproportionately long in this program. It lasts as long as seven minutes, while everything else fits in 10 minutes.

At 9 p.m. the station featured a one-hour interview with the Sarajevo theatre director Sulejman Kupusovic. The interview was “broken up” with clips from his latest play “Bice, bice,” (“It Will Be, It Will Be”) which makes it more effective and attractive.

“BRT Int” will in the future have to work to correct some purely media mistakes made on this monitored day. For instance, at 3 p.m. a movie was interrupted 15 minutes before the end in order to broadcast the Iranian program, and the rest of the movie was shown subsequently. Perhaps they should have first established the length of the movie? Or, in the most expensive and most attractive television time at 8 p.m., this station broadcast a program about a karate club, which consisted of endless (and not particularly attractive) repetitions of karate moves. It was accompanied by monotonous music, without any comment or intention to explain what it is about.

Religious program strongly characterizes “BRT Int”. At 11:30 a.m. prayers in Arabic are broadcast for more than 20 minutes, with a picture of the Koran and with Arabic title above it. Regardless of how much religious strength this may have, this program is unattractive for television. The program was followed by a mosque chorus from a Moslem country (it was not written or said which one), with a combination of footage of the performers and of landscapes from the country. After that, the station showed Turkish musicians playing mandolins and tamburitzas. The station presented the call for prayer from mosques on three occasions. This was accompanied by pictures of mosques and other historic sights from Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The names of some “BRT Int” programs are in English. News is called – “News”, while the word “Showtime” is shown during the whole program. One of the television’s identification videos is very effective. On a video animation of Earth, Bosnia-Herzegovina is shown with rays of light coming out of it, first towards Mecca, and then towards European capitals, which is supposed to symbolically show that Bosnia-Herzegovina is open to the East and West. What is politically debatable is that the crescent is then shown, with Bosnia-Herzegovina playing the role of the star in it.

On the basis of one monitored day, it may be concluded that Bosniak Television has been launched ambitiously with fairly good production of its own and numerous licensed programs both from the East and West. Small journalistic and technical disorientation is noticeable, but it is to be believed that it will be overcome in time, especially if Zisko’s promise that experienced staff will be brought from other television stations comes true. “BRT Int” will have to find a special mode of how to fit some religious elements into the standard television pattern which is reflected in the frequently used word “Showtime.” The balance between these two elements will determine the future and the success of this new television.

(Media Plan Institute Monitoring Center)

Media in Neighboring Countries III

Croatia: Disciplining of Media (2)

Media News is publishing a series of articles on the media situation in the neighboring countries, maintaining that neither political nor media issues in the three former Yugoslav republics can be viewed completely isolated from one another. We are featuring the second

part of an article on the media situation in Croatia written by our associate Ivica Juric from Split.

Distribution of Losses – At the Expense of Independent Newspapers

The situation concerning print media distribution is the cause of particular concern. The main and monopolistic print media distributor in Croatia, “Tisak,” which has for years been under the ownership control of one of the more privileged tycoons of the ruling party Miroslav Kutle, is facing bankruptcy. “Tisak” has been using its monopoly for years to deny payment to the newspapers it was selling. Due to the difficult financial situation resulting from this, some of the best known Croatian independent media such as the weeklies *Feral Tribune* and *Nacional* were threatened with having to stop publishing, but this has also created huge difficulties for independent dailies such as *Jutarnji list* and *Novi list*, and even daily newspapers controlled by the state (*Vecernji list* and *Vjesnik*).

Only when the situation became alarming did the Croatian Government decide to intervene and to take over the ownership of “Tisak” through banks under its control, and to prevent its bankruptcy which, due to outstanding debts, would probably have dragged into bankruptcy also some independent newspapers that could not count on special favorable credits and other financial assistance from the state. In any case, even if such a catastrophic development has been temporarily prevented, the fact remains that the Croatian state will maintain control of the main distribution channel for print media and that independent newspapers may again find themselves in a situation of financial dependence. It is interesting that an offer of foreign private capital to take over this distribution organization on a commercial and profitable basis has been refused.

Dangerous Deluge of Mental Patients

According to unofficial information, some 500 court cases are presently underway in Croatia against journalists and media. Also, according to unofficial information, Croatia is at the very top of the world in this.

Probably the best known Croatian paper, the Split *Feral Tribune*, which alone has 60 suits worth around five million DEM “on its back,” last year requested the examination of the constitutionality of Article 25 of the Law on Public Information. This article calls for urgency in court processes in cases concerning compensation of damage caused by information published by media, and it stipulates that the court process is due to start within eight days of the filing of the suit.

In its elaboration, *Feral Tribune* maintains that the article is unconstitutional because it puts one social group into a privileged position, mostly public figures, or to be more precise – politicians. They are the ones who sue media and journalists most often for alleged slander or insult or, as it is frequently called, “inflicting mental anguish,” for whose treatment astronomic sums of money are requested. On the other hand, many court cases dealing with the basic human rights and bare survival of the common citizen await solution and justice for months and years. At the same time, *Feral Tribune* has been unable for years to collect payment from its distributors and to regain large financial resources taken from it by the state when the scandalous so-called pornography tax was introduced.

Although the law on media has received a passing mark, the state has ensured through other laws the necessary amount of repression that can be applied against media and journalists. One of such cases are certainly the provisions of the penal code that protect highest politicians from the critical public word, and based on which there have already been court cases in which the president of the state (the *Feral Tribune* case) or the entire government have sued journalists (the *Globus* case). Although under strict political control,

the Croatian judiciary has rejected these suits. However, there are many more, politically less exposed court cases in which several verdicts can completely financially destroy certain independent and critical papers.

The Right to the Profession

Still, the journalistic front has lately been expanding and gaining in strength, wanting to resist media repression and instrumentalization of media. A group of well-known journalists from state television (and some other electronic media) have founded a group called Forum 21, whose main aim is to fight for a public television and for obeying of professional journalist standards. Although there are many among them who were on the frontlines of the media war, when their profession was turned into a pure political-propaganda service and journalist ethics literally trampled on, and who kept silent for years about the regime's repression against independent media and journalists, still even this delayed voice of the journalist guild in favor of media democratization, especially when it comes to state television, has had a positive echo among the public. (For instance, a scandal recently broke out in which a Forum member, television journalist Silvana Mendjusic, was suspected of filming and reporting false enemy attacks on Sibenik during the war for the needs of the Croatian war propaganda).

However, another association, which testifies about the disgraceful era in the new media "democratization" in Croatia in an even more striking way, has received considerably less attention.

The association is called "The Right to the Profession" and it is headed by the well-known TV journalist and commentator Tomislav Jakic. Its aim is to gather all those journalists who have been, as a result of various political or ethnic motivations, "purged" from different media in Croatia. Although some 40 members have joined the association so far, it is assessed that since 1990, when the HDZ party came into power, between 300 and 400 journalists were removed from different media, from state television to factory papers, in this or that way using different pretexts, but with the common characteristic of being "politically or nationally unsuitable."

"The new authorities have subjected Croatian journalism to rape for many years and we want to put a stop to it," says association president Tomislav Jakic. He explained that the association's aim is not to attain justice and to solve individual journalist fates, because that would be a Sisyphean task in view that the "regime's new media broom" has camouflaged its purge very well, but primarily to form public awareness that would prevent the repetition of such "purgues."

The Most Significant Independent Media in Croatia

DAILY:

NOVI LIST: A paper that was transformed in the early 90's from a regional to the most respected independent Croatian daily newspaper. Novi list has succeeded in maintaining the independence of its journalists and preventing control of its information because its employees have succeeded in keeping – unlike, for instance, "Slobodna Dalmacija" – ownership of their paper.

Editor-in-chief: Branko Mijic

Director: Zdenko Mance

Tel: 385 51 650-011, Rijeka

WEEKLY:

FERAL TRIBUNE: The weekly that received the largest number of international journalism awards in this decade, but which has also attracted the largest number of legal suits. Feral has deserved both by its courage and high professionalism, by analytically revealing and unsurpassably ridiculing the dirty laundry and stupidity of Croatian politics and business.

Editor-in-chief: Heni Erceg

Director: Zoran Erceg

Tel: 385 21 589-165, Split

ELECTRONIC MEDIUM:

RADIO 101 – Although today it is going through a certain staffing and program crisis, the radio has imposed itself by its independent information as a synonym for free journalism in the years when media, particularly electronic media, were under strict control. Several years ago, the radio's journalists, together with 100,000 listeners, offered imposing resistance in the biggest demonstrations in Croatia until that time.

Editor-in-chief: Tamara Pavlica

Director: Dario Dusper

Tel: 385 1 481-1677, Zagreb

AGENCY:

STINA: The agency appeared in 1991 literally on the wastelands of the destroyed information system of the former Yugoslavia. By its continual cooperation with dozens of independent media, first in the former Yugoslavia, and then in eastern Europe, it sent out uncontrolled information and contributed to breaking media blockades and the stereotypes built by state and political party media about the states and nations in their neighborhood.

Editor-in-chief: Stojan Obradovic

Director: Goran Vezic

Tel: 385 21 49-956, Split

The Monitor's Eye



Rich “Tribina” (“Panel”)

The oldest Sarajevo daily *Oslobodjenje* has for decades cherished its page “Readers’ Letters,” which has formally been called “Tribina” (meaning panel) for a long time. Strong confrontations of opinions were particularly noticeable after the first multi-party elections. No other print medium in the entire territory of Bosnia-Herzegovina, whether daily papers, weeklies or periodicals, has an extensive and such an especially profiled readers’ page as *Oslobodjenje*. Still, a particular illustration is the issue of Saturday, April 10 of this year, in which “Tribina” took up two full pages, with several very different articles in the forms of responses, opinions, reflections, etc., concerning items published in the paper’s previous issues.

The “Readers’ Letters” page in principle holds numerous traps in the sense that it may feature, under the cover of freedom of the press, opinions that are unacceptable from the

civilizational point of view and even signed with non-existent names. However, these risks must be taken for the sake of the needed polyphony of our voices.

This “Tribina,” as well as earlier ones, is an illustration of the editorial orientation in a significant, but unjustly neglected journalistic genre. One in the best tradition of, say, the London Times.

“Oko 22”

The moderator of the Oko 22 program (April 12) of the Sarajevo TV station Studio 99 hastily attempted to uncover Belgrade television propaganda regarding news on a missile attack on a passenger train in central Serbia. She first interrupted the station’s Belgrade correspondent with the remark that news on the train attack was not supported by footage, to which the reporter replied that he was not relying only on Yugoslav, but also on American sources which announced that a mistake was made when a railway bridge was targeted. Right after that, the moderator backed her doubt in the news on, as she called it, “the alleged train attack,” by parallel items from HTV and RTV Serbia programs, which did not have such footage.

A little while later all TV stations in the world, including these two, showed footage on the bridge.

N e w s

“Channel S” Banned”

The International Media Commission (IMC) on April 14 banned Pale-based “Channel S” because of its broadcasting of RTV Serbian programming.

Commission spokespersons Dieter Loraine and Zinaida Babovic earlier announced the possibility of banning media which reported one-sidedly on the NATO strikes on FR Yugoslavia and the Kosovo crisis. “TV Serbia’s completely one-sided reporting affects the stability of Bosnia-Herzegovina,” said Dieter Loraine.

However, the “Channel S” management has rejected the ban. “We do not consider the IMC decision to be legal. If viewers are unable to continue to watch our channel, it means we have been forcibly prevented from working,” the TV station’s editor-in-chief said directly in program.

The IMC’s founding act contains a provision according to which the Commission, in a case of need, may ask for help from other international factors which are able to implement decisions using force (SFOR). At this moment, IMC was unable to tell us whether they will forcibly prevent “Channel S” from broadcasting.

Discussion on Law on Federal RTV Postponed

Although it had been announced, the Parliament of the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina at a two-day session on April 13-14 did not discuss the Law on Federal Television. The law was overshadowed by the ratification of special relations between the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina and the Republic of Croatia.

The Draft Law on the RTV of the Federation of Bosnia-Herzegovina, which was passed by the Federation Government, is supposed to go through its so-called “first reading,” or a detailed discussion, in the Parliament. After that the text will be sent back to the Government

for correction, and only then the law should be passed by the Federation Parliament in the form of a bill. That is the procedure leading to the final adoption of the law, SAFAX has found out from its sources.

Spokesman for the international community's High Representative Simon Haselock has warned the federal partners that the international community will not forever support the creation of a joint television and has requested that the law be passed as soon as possible. He has also stated that the ruling parties SDA and HDZ were spending huge amounts of money for party-controlled cantonal television stations, without wanting to create a federal television which would connect the Federation media-wise. ■

On the Threshold of a New Century



Listen with your ears!



Look with your eyes!



Think with your head!

Council:Media Plan Institute

Prof. Dr. Muhamed Nuhic, Hamza Baksic (Sarajevo); Perica Vucinic (Banja Luka); M.S. Lenart Setinc (Ljubljana); Prof. Dr. Mario Plenkovic (Zagreb); M.S. Loius de la Ronciere (Paris); M.S. Aleksandar Todorovic (Montreaux); Prof. Dr. Slavo Kukic (Mostar), Prof.Dr. Miroljub Radojkovic (Beograd) ■

THE IMC CODE ON MEDIA RULES FOR ELECTIONS

The Independent Media Commission (IMC) has put in force a Code on Media Rules for Elections as of 31 March 1999, in Bosnia and Herzegovina. This Code is intended to provide provisional media rules during election periods until the adoption of a permanent election law.

The need for interim rules arose after the OSCE Media Expert Commission was dissolved at the end of October 1998, at which time the Provisional Election Commission Rules and Regulations concerning Media ceased to have effect. At its December conference in Madrid, the Peace Implementation Council supported efforts of the IMC and OSCE, in consultation with OHR, to draft clear election rules that require media to offer equal access to all political parties, coalitions and independent candidates.

The Code, which will remain in effect until the adoption and implementation of a permanent Election Law in BiH, is subject to periodic review and revision. The Code was developed in consultation with a working group on the Permanent Election Law and was adopted by the Council of IMC.

IMC CODE ON MEDIA RULES FOR ELECTIONS

Preamble

This Code supplements the Independent Media Commission (IMC) Broadcasting Code of Practice, which entered into force 1 August 1998, and regulates specific aspects of media in election periods. The rules in the IMC Broadcasting Code of Practice also apply in full to all broadcast media in election periods. Both are subject to periodic review and revision. This Code will be subject to a general revision by the Council of IMC in June 1999.

The freedom of expression consistent with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the European Convention of Human Rights, the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Constitutions of the Entities, shall be ensured at all times. Freedom of expression is of special importance in connection with elections and is a prerequisite for free and fair elections.

This Code, which enters into force 31 March 1999, remains in effect until the Permanent Election Law has entered into force and been fully implemented.

more follows/...

Article 1

Application of the IMC Code on Media Rules for Elections

This Code shall apply to and is binding for all media in Bosnia and Herzegovina in connection with elections at municipal, Cantonal, Entity or state level. This Code has precedence over any existing laws or regulations applied in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which are in contradiction with it.

Article 2

General Provisions

Broadcast media shall at all times comply with the requirements in the IMC Broadcasting Code of Practice on programme standards and requirements and right of reply.

Print media shall ensure that the information they report is factually accurate, complete, fair, equitable and unbiased. No media shall engage in distortion, suppression, falsification, misrepresentation or censorship, including systematic omission of information that would materially affect public understanding of an issue or event. Media shall not use any material which by its content or tone carries a clear and immediate risk of inciting ethnic or religious hatred among the communities of Bosnia and Herzegovina or which by any reasonable judgement would incite to violence or other disorder that would disrupt the electoral process.

Article 3

Political Advertisements

No paid political advertisements may be broadcast by, or on behalf of, any body whose objectives are wholly or mainly of a political nature, and no paid advertisements may be directed toward any political end, whether municipal, Cantonal, Entity or State.

When print media carry political advertisements, the sponsors of such advertisements must be clearly indicated.

Article 4

Media Silence Period

No media coverage of any political activity shall take place in the whole territory of Bosnia and Herzegovina for a period to begin 24 hours prior to the opening of polling stations on the first day of voting and continue until closing of the polling stations on the final day.

Article 5

Equitable Access

All broadcast and print media shall give fair coverage and equitable access to all registered political parties, coalitions and independent candidates in the elections, based on guidelines issued by IMC in cooperation with the Provisional Election Commission.

All broadcast media shall provide during the 45 days prior to the first day of the elections fair coverage of political party, coalition and candidate activities, including comparable coverage of newsworthy events and fair exposure by other means. Broadcast media shall broadcast political discussion programmes, with a politically balanced composition and which project an image of impartiality.

Broadcasters may be requested to provide free broadcast time for direct access by political parties, coalitions and candidates, based on regulations issued by IMC in cooperation with the Provisional Election Commission.

Print media shall, if coverage or access is given to any party, coalition or candidate, give fair coverage of party, coalition or candidate activities, including comparable coverage of newsworthy events and fair exposure by other means. Print media shall have equitable publishing policies for political advertisements, including rates for paid political advertisements that are at or below the lowest commercial rates.

Article 6

Fair Reporting

Newspapers and periodicals shall make every effort to ensure that the information they report is factually accurate, complete, fair and unbiased. Newspapers and periodicals shall not engage in distortion, fabrication or suppression, including the systematic omission of information.

In reporting and commenting on a controversy, newspapers and periodicals shall make an effort to hear and represent all sides of the question. If one side in a controversy refuses to make itself available to the journalist, the publication may legitimately note this refusal in its reporting.

Article 7

Procedure

In case of violation of this Code, the IMC may apply sanctions against broadcast media in accordance with Article 4.2 of the IMC Broadcasting Code of Practice.

IMC may apply the following sanctions against other media in addition to the system of self-regulation implemented by the professional organisations, if this in the judgement of IMC provides insufficient remedy: the requirement to publish an apology and/or correction, the issuance of warnings, the making of orders and the imposition of financial penalties.

IMC may decide to refer any violation of this Code to the Election Appeals Sub-Commission (EASC) to be handled in accordance with the rules and mandate of EASC.

9th April 1999.

Further Information: Zinaida Babovic on 071 651 085/086