

## AGENDA

### Regional Conference Indicators for Independence of Media Regulatory Bodies

6-7 March 2014

Hotel Tirana International, Tirana, Albania

**6 March 2014**

**09.00 – 09.30**

#### **Opening session**

Vangjel Dule, Deputy Speaker, Assembly of Albania  
Milena Harito, Minister, Ministry of Innovation and Public Administration, Albania  
Marco Leidekker, Head of Council of Europe Office in Tirana  
Lejla Dervišagić, Programme Manager, Media Division, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe, Strasbourg

**09.30 – 10.10**

#### **Indicators for formal and actual independence of regulatory bodies in the media sector**

Dr. Kristina Irion, Central European University (Budapest) and University of Amsterdam

**10.10 – 10.30**

#### **Indicators for independence of regulatory bodies: Analysis conducted in the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

Dr Snežana Trpevska, School of Journalism and Public Relations, Skopje, Macedonia

Moderator:

Fabiola Haxhillari, Project Officer, Council of Europe

**10.30 – 11.00**

#### **Coffee break**

**11.00 – 13.00**

#### **The biggest challenges for independence of regulatory bodies . Panel discussion**

Possible topics for discussion:

- Development of legislative framework and transparency of the process;
- Implementation of laws;
- Status of employees: appointment of members to the organizational units of the regulatory body, granting the employees of the regulatory body the same status as civil servants in terms of professional titles, calculation of remuneration, decision making process etc.;
- Narrative and financial reporting: rights and responsibilities;
- Conflict of interest: dismissal of members due to conflict of interest;
- Possibilities for taking punitive measures (fines) aimed at more efficient implementation of the law;
- Measures to enhance policy stability and to reduce post-electoral vulnerabilities;
- Strengthening the regulators' internal culture of independence and resilience;
- Meeting good regulatory practices, e.g. transparency, public consultations, and accountability.

Moderator: Jadranka Vojvodić, AEM, Montenegro

**13.00 – 14.30**

**Lunch**

**14.30 – 17.00**

Continuation of previous session: **The biggest challenges for independence of regulatory bodies. Panel discussion.**

**7 March 2014**

**09.00 – 10.00**

**Independent regulatory bodies, media governance, media liberalisation**

Dr Zrinjka Peruško, Professor at the Department of Journalism, Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb, Croatia

**10.00 – 11.00**

**Discussion.**

**Defining conclusions related to independence of regulatory bodies and relevant indicators: institutional and financial independence**

**11.00 – 11.30**

**Coffee break**

**11.30 – 12.30**

**Panel discussion**

**12.30 – 13.00**

**Conclusions / Next steps**

Moderator: Zrinjka Peruško

**13.00 – 14.30**

**Lunch / End of the Conference**