

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA FOR DEMOCRACY

A conference co-organised by the Council of Europe and the European Broadcasting Union

Hosted by the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, under the patronage of Ms Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen, Speaker of the Seimas

22 November 2022

Seimas, Conference Hall, Building 3

Vilnius, Lithuania

PROG

PROGRAMME

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ORGANISED BY:





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PROGRAMME

The indicated time refers to the Vilnius time zone (CET+1)

Moderator: Annelies Beck, Vlaamse Radio- en Televisieomroeporganisatie (VRT)

8:45-9:45 REGISTRATION

Welcome coffee

10:00–10:30 WELCOME AND OPENING

Viktorija Čmilytė-Nielsen, Speaker of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Marija Pejčinović Burić, Secretary General of the Council of Europe (video message)

Delphine Ernotte, EBU President (video message)

10:30–12:30 PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA AND FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION IN TIMES OF CRISIS

The session will address how public service media do their job, even when their journalists and staff are threatened, such as, during the pandemic or in increasingly fragmented societies or when they are reporting about the war in Ukraine. It will also focus on how Russian journalists report from and about the Russian Federation after the country's cessation of membership to the Council of Europe.

Session moderator: Annelies Beck, VRT

Panelists:

Angelina Kariakina, Head of News at UA: PBC (Ukrainian PSM)

Teresa Ribeiro, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

Indrė Makaraitytė, Head of the Investigative Unit, LRT (Lithuanian PSM)

Manica J. Ambrožič, former editor in chief of RTVSLO (Slovenian PSM)

Ricardo Gutiérrez, General Secretary, European Federation of Journalists

Tikhon Dzyadko, Editor-in-chief, TV Rain - Dozhd TV Channel **Peter ter Velde**, Project Manager, the PersVeilig mechanism

Q&A

12:30-14:00 LUNCH

14:00–15:30 PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA BETWEEN PRESSURE AND EXPECTATIONS: STANDARDS AND PRACTICE

Examples and case studies from different countries will illustrate how the Council of Europe's standards are – or are not – implemented. Examples will address the main current challenges related to the remit, the funding, the governance, the independence of PSM and the market environment in which they operate.

Session moderator: Živilė Kropaitė-Basiulė, LRT

Tim Davie, Director General of the BBC (video interview)

Mogens Jensen, General Rapporteur on Media Freedom of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Manuel Puppis, Université de Fribourg · Department of Mass Media and Communication

Krisztina Rozgonyi, Senior Scientist, Institute for Comparative Media and Communication Studies (CMC), Austrian Academy of Sciences

Vytautas Juozapaitis, Chairman of the Cultural Committee of the Seimas (Lithuanian Parliament)

Meaghan Fitzgerald, Head of ODIHR Election Department **Maria Donde,** Senior Vice-Chairperson, European Platform of Regulatory Authorities

Q&A

15:30–16:00 COFFEE BREAK

16:00–17:30 HOW TO ENSURE A RENEWED COMMITMENT FOR PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA AND A BETTER PROTECTION OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION: THE WAY FORWARD

This session will discuss why independent and innovative PSM are needed in a media environment with an abundant online offer. Concrete solutions and recommendations will be proposed how PSM organisations can live up to their core values of universality, independence, excellence, diversity, accountability and innovation. The Council of European-EU cooperation will also be addressed.

Session moderator: Klaus Unterberger, ORF (Austrian PSM)

Renate Nikolay, Head of Vice-President Věra Jourová's Cabinet, European Commission

Jean-Paul Philippot, Director General of RTBF (Belgian PSM)

Heike Raab, Secretary of State of the Land Rhineland-Palatinate **Timo Huovinen,** Chief of Journalistic Standards and Ethics and Ombudsman, YLE (Finnish PSM)

Monika Garbačiauskaitė-Budrienė, Director General of LRT Patrick Große, Head of Content ENTR, Deutsche Welle Urška Umek, Head of Media Unit, Information Society Department, Council of Europe

Q&A

17:30 CONCLUDING SESSION

Patrick Penninckx, Head of Information Society Department, Council of Europe

Noel Curran, Director General, EBU

The **PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA FOR DEMOCRACY** conference will facilitate discussions between high-level representatives of the Council of Europe and its member states, EBU Members, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, other international organisations, national Parliamentarians, regulatory authorities, journalists and civil society organisations. These debates are expected to lead to a set of concrete recommendations on how to improve the situation, along with a reflection on whether the applicable standards should be reviewed to meet the most recent challenges facing PSM. The recommendations will be reflected in the conference conclusions.

www.coe.int/PSM4democracy



The European Broadcasting Union (EBU) is the world's leading alliance of public service media (PSM). It has 112 member organizations in 56 countries and an additional 31 Associates in Asia, Africa, Australasia and the Americas. Its members operate nearly 2,000 television, radio and online channels and services, and offer a wealth of content across other platforms in more than 160 languages.

www.ebu.ch

The **Council of Europe** is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

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