

Reponse of the Croatian authorities with regard to the alert *Homeland Movement Calls to End Funding of Weekly Novosti*

With the reference to the alert of 29 May 2024. concerning the cuts off funding weekly Novosti, the publication Novosti, published by the Serbian National Council - the national coordination of the Council of the Serbian National Minority in the Republic of Croatia, is financed by the Council for National Minorities of the Republic of Croatia, the umbrella body of national minorities in the Republic of Croatia. The council distributes funds that are provided in the state budget of the Republic of Croatia for the needs of national minorities through the allocation of financial support for cultural autonomy programs of national minorities.

We emphasize that at the session of the Council for National Minorities held on April 19, 2024, a Decision was made on the distribution of funds that are provided in the budget of the Republic of Croatia for the needs of national minorities in 2024 and according to that Decision on the financing of the weekly Novosti in 2024. The Serbian National Council was approved EUR 610,000 out of the total allocated EUR 768,000.

https://narodne-novine.nn.hr/clanci/sluzbeni/2024_04_47_804.html

The Ministry of Culture and Media consistently emphasizes the importance of transparent financing of the media, which is additionally confirmed by the significantly strengthened regulatory framework, i.e. the provisions of the Electronic Media Act adopted in October 2021. In order to further strengthen the application of regulations, 6.6 million was secured through the National Recovery and Resilience Plan EUR, which will be invested through the Agency for Electronic Media in the establishment of a system of public verification of information, but also in the establishment of a unique digital database on the ownership and sources of financing of all media in the Republic of Croatia. Also, in the National Plan for the Development of Culture and Media from 2023 to 2027 and the associated action plan, the measure of encouraging transparent financing of the media with public funds is clearly stated.

<https://min-kulture.gov.hr/vijesti-8/priopcenje-ministarstva-kulture-i-medija-o-transparentnosti-financiranja-elektronickih-medija/24914>