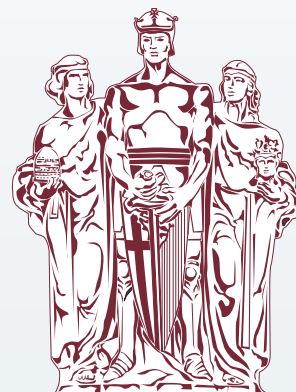


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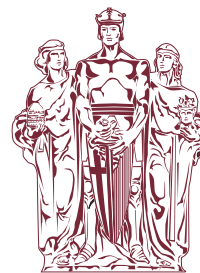
ANNUAL REPORT 2014



L-Awtorità tax-Xandir
MALTA
Broadcasting Authority Malta

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2014



L-Awtorità tax-Xandir
MALTA
Broadcasting Authority Malta

The Hon. Dr Joseph Muscat KUOM, Ph.D., M.P
Prime Minister
Office of the Prime Minister
Auberge De Castille
Valletta

26th March 2015

Honourable Prime Minister,

Broadcasting Authority Annual Report 2014

In accordance with sub-article (1) of article 30 of the Broadcasting Act, Chapter 350 of the Laws of Malta, we have pleasure in forwarding the Broadcasting Authority's Annual Report for 2014.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony J. Tabone
Chairman

Pierre Cassar
Chief Executive

CONTENTS

Chairman's Statement

1. Review of the Year by the Chief Executive

1.1	The Broadcasting Authority.....	11
1.2	Human Resources.....	11
1.3	Staff Development.....	11
1.4	Sponsorship – Certificate Course in Proof Reading	11
1.5	Sponsorship – Malta Journalism Awards.....	12
1.6	EBU R128 Audio Standard.....	12
1.7	Installation of the Television Capturing and Monitoring System (TVCMS)	12
1.8	Visit by the President of the Republic	12
1.9	Corporate Social Responsibility	12
1.10	Collaboration Agreement with M3P Foundation	13
1.11	Għargħur Transmitting Facilities.....	13
1.12	Rebranding and Use of Social Media	13
1.13	Thematic Reports compiled by the Monitoring Department.....	13

2. Administrative Offences15

3. Broadcasting Licences.....17

3.1	Radio Broadcasting Licences.....	17
3.1.1	<i>Community Radio Stations</i>	17
3.1.2	<i>Nationwide Analogue Radio (FM/AM)</i>	19
3.1.3	<i>Digital Radio Platform</i>	19
3.2	Nationwide Television and Satellite Stations	19
3.2.1	<i>Television Stations</i>	19
3.2.2	<i>Satellite Licences</i>	19

4. Broadcasting Legislation21

4.1	Consultation Documents.....	21
4.1.1	Correct use of the Maltese Language	21
4.1.2	Broadcasting Code for the Protection of Minors	21

5. Programme Complaints23

5.01	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>TVAM</i> [16 January]	23
5.02	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>Dissett</i> [27 February]	24
5.03	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>TVM News</i> [27 February]	24
5.04	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>TVM News</i> [11 March]	24
5.05	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>TVAM</i> [11-12 March]	25
5.06	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>Dissett</i> [20 March]	26
5.07	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>TVM News</i> [20 March]	26
5.08	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>Issa Nista'</i>	26
5.09	Alternattiva Demokratika vs ONE and ONE Radio.....	27
5.10	Alternattiva Demokratika vs Net TV and Radio 101.....	28
5.11	Partit Alleanza Bidla vs PBS Ltd – <i>Xarabank</i> [16 May]	28
5.12	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>TVM News</i> [5 May]	28

5.13	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>TVM News</i> [5 MAY]	29
5.14	Nazzareno Bonnici vs ONE Productions.....	29
5.15	Alternattiva Demokratika vs ONE Productions.....	29
5.16	Imperium Ewropa vs PBS Ltd – <i>Xarabank</i> [16 May]	29
5.17	Imperium Ewropa vs PBS Ltd – <i>Għandi Xi Ngħid</i>	30
5.18	Birdlife Malta vs PBS Ltd – <i>Animal Diaries</i> [12 April and 3 May] and slot in <i>TVAM</i> [29 April and 6 May].....	30
5.19	Dr Martin Fenech noe vs PBS Ltd – <i>Xarabank</i> [6 June]	30
5.20	PN vs PBS Ltd – <i>Times Talk</i> [4 November]	31
6.	Political Broadcasts	33
6.1	European Parliament Elections	33
7.	International Relations	37
7.1	European Commission's European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services	37
7.2	European Platform of Regulatory Authorities.....	37
7.3	Contact Committee of the EU Audiovisual Media Service Directive and Working Group of Audiovisual Regulatory Authorities	38
7.4	Mediterranean Network of Regulatory Authorities	38
7.5	Hungarian Media Council International Conference.....	38
7.6	Visit by members of then Moldovan Broadcasting Council	38
8.	Media Archives	39
9.	Radio and Television Audience Assessment.....	41
9.1	Radio Audiences	42
9.1.1	<i>Daily Average Hours of Radio Listening</i>	44
9.1.2	<i>Peak Radio Audiences by Station</i>	45
9.1.3	<i>Radio Audience Shares</i>	46
9.2	Television Audiences	46
9.2.1	<i>Daily Average Hours of TV viewing</i>	48
9.2.2	<i>Peak TV Audiences by station</i>	49
9.2.3	<i>TV Audience Shares</i>	50
9.2.4	<i>TV Programme Preferences</i>	51
	Appendices	53
1.	Correct Use of the Maltese Language	55
	Skeda A – L-Ismijiet tal-Bliet u l-Irġula Maltin	58
	Skeda B – Titli Televiżivi għal Tmiem il-Programmi	59
2.	Consultation Document on the Code for the Protection of Minors in Broadcasting	63

Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014



01 CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The term of appointment of the Board of the Authority had expired at the end of December 2013. It is, however, with a certain satisfaction that the Board composition, in its entirety, was confirmed for a further term of two years by the Prime Minister with the full agreement of the Leader of the Opposition. This consensus is evidence of the Broadcasting Authority's impartiality and of the serious way it carries out its duties under Article 119 of the Constitution of Malta and in terms of the Broadcasting Act. The renewed appointment of the whole Board has contributed towards continuity, especially in terms of certain projects and reforms which were initiated during the previous term.

During the year under review, the Authority was active in a number of sectors as can be attested by the reports in the various sections of this Annual Report. During the year, it held thirty six formal meetings apart from a number of informal meetings or consultations among Board members. Although most of the work undertaken by the Authority does not take centre stage in the media during the year, the Authority had a very ambitious work programme, and it is to the credit of all members of the Board and of the staff that the objectives were met and most of the projects and planned activities were completed in time and on budget.

The Broadcasting Authority features prominently during any Election or Referendum, and the year under review was no exception. Given that 2014 was the

year when the Elections for Members of the European Parliament were held, it goes without saying that the Authority had to dedicate considerable time and effort to ensure that, from a broadcasting viewpoint, all the requirements of balance and impartiality, as provided for both in the Constitution of Malta and the Broadcasting Act, were scrupulously adhered to by all television and radio stations.

One tends to think that such an election only involves the Authority in the execution of a scheme of Political Broadcasts (including political spots) which it is bound to organise in terms of Section 13 (4) of the Broadcasting Act in the run up to the Election. Nothing can be further from the truth. There is a large volume of work involved, both before the actual production of these broadcasts and also during the day of the Election itself. The Authority works very closely with the Electoral Commission and the Police to ensure that the closest possible co-ordination among the three entities is achieved during Election Day and also on the preceding day (popularly referred to as the Day of Silence). The Authority also needs to work closely with the national broadcaster who is entrusted by the Authority to broadcast the programmes and spots and it would not be amiss to highlight, at this point, the support and assistance which the Authority receives from PBS Ltd in this respect.

The visit of Her Excellency the President of Malta Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca to the Broadcasting Authority

offices on the occasion of the fifty-third anniversary of its foundation was one of the highlights of the Authority's events during the year. It coincided with the inauguration of the TVCMS Project which had been on the cards for several years. This project was only taken up in earnest during the past eighteen months following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Hungarian Infocommunication and Media Authority (NMHH), through which we managed to obtain the software for a state-of-the art television capturing and monitoring system. This has greatly improved the efficiency of our Monitoring Department. We are indeed grateful to NMHH for the co-operation extended to us not only in providing the software free of charge but also training our personnel to operate the system. We have now brought our facilities in this area of operation to a standard European level.

The independence of broadcasting regulatory bodies, such as the Broadcasting Authority, is currently a major topic of discussion in a number of international fora. The fact that the functions of the Broadcasting Authority are enshrined in the Constitution of Malta is very positive and places Malta among those countries where the independence of the regulatory body is protected. We maintain that the principles of effective regulation relate specifically to independent governance, accountability and funding. On our part, we strive to ensure that the rules of good governance and accountability are scrupulously observed. The question of funding is a matter of some concern. The Authority has had, over the last few years, to make sure that it has adequate financial resources to carry out its obligations and commitments, given that the Government subvention, has been either the minimum established by law [Chap.340 Para 24 (1) (b)] equivalent to €582,350, or as in the case of the year under review slightly above that amount. This amount, bearing in mind that it has not changed since 1991, barely covers the payroll cost and this in itself can impact on the efficiency of the Authority itself.

This Annual Report gives a clear picture of the complaints which the Authority had to handle during the year under review in terms of Subsidiary Legislation 350.06. The Authority had to hear and decide upon no less than twenty formal complaints during the year, which dealt with a variety of aspects. The determination of these complaints, especially during an Electoral Campaign, takes up a substantial amount of resources, and the Authority has issued some landmark decisions in connection with these complaints.

The Authority continued with its efforts to improve the quality of service which the viewer and radio listener expects from the broadcasting media in Malta. These initiatives include the work being done to have all broadcasting stations becoming compliant with the EBU R128 Audio Standard. This standard is aimed at doing away with the fluctuations in the sound levels between the different programmes and advertising slots. The Authority also continued with the sponsorship of Broadcast Journalism Awards in conjunction with the Institute of Maltese Journalists as well as sponsorship of the Certificate Course in Proof Reading in the Maltese Language for personnel of the broadcasting media.

It has always been my belief that for the Authority to keep abreast with developments which are taking place in the various media today, it has to shed its insular approach and involve itself more actively in international relations with other Regulatory Authorities and European fora. In this regard, during the year under review, the Authority has taken a number of initiatives and an active participation in meetings of the European Platform for Regulatory Authorities and the new European Group of Regulatory Authorities which has been set up under the aegis of the European Commission. We have also had useful bilateral meetings in Malta and on the fringe of other European events during which, matters of mutual interest were discussed with our partners in the field of broadcasting regulation.

I am very pleased to put on record the initiative taken by the Monitoring Department to organise a Corporate Social Responsibility event which directly benefitted a shelter for young people and adults who find themselves going through difficult periods in their lives. Apart from the intrinsic value of such an activity to the benefit of this home, it also served as a team building experience for the members of the management and staff who participated.

In conclusion I would like to express my appreciation to my colleagues on the Board for their valuable support and contribution during the meetings, to the Chief Executive for his valuable advice and dedication as well as to all members of the management and staff for their commitment and hard work during the year.

Anthony J. Tabone
Chairman

CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY DURING 2014



Her Excellency the President of Malta Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca, flanked to the right by Mr Anthony J Tabone, Chairman of the Broadcasting Authority; Mr Alfred Mallia Milanese, Board Member; Dr Simon Manicolo, Board Secretary; and to the left by Mrs Rose Sciberras, Dr Reno Borg and Dr Peter Fenech, Board Members; and Mr Pierre Cassar, Chief Executive of the Broadcasting Authority during a visit to the President at the Palace, Valletta.

**Her Excellency the President of Malta
Marie-Louise Coleiro Preca
at the offices of the Broadcasting Authority
on the occasion of the fifty-third anniversary of its
foundation
3 October 2014**



Auguri għal aktar snen ta' tlietna f'din l-okkazzjoni tat-53 sena annversarju.
Preit tanen għall-iżvilupp pożittiv li tnebbag bej l-Awtorità tax-Xandir tar-rifletti stat demokratiku modern.
Marie Louise Coleiro Preca
3/10/14



01 REVIEW OF THE YEAR

1.1 The Broadcasting Authority

The present board was appointed as from 1st January 2014 for a two-year period. The Authority is composed of:

Chairman	Mr Anthony J Tabone Dip. MRS, MCIM
Members	Dr Reno Borg B.A. (Hons.), M.A., LL.D. Dr Peter Fenech M.A., LL.D. Mr Alfred Mallia Milanes Ms Rose Sciberras B.A. (Hons.), L.P.
Chief Executive	Mr Pierre Cassar M.Sc., B.A. (Hons.), Dip. Laws of Proc. (Melit.)
Secretary	Dr Simon Manicolo B.A., LL.D.

The Authority held a total of 36 meetings during the year.

As the MEP Elections were held during the year in review, it stands to reason that the Authority mainly focused on the scheme of political broadcasts it organises. The Authority also handled several complaints filed by the parties contesting this election. This section is dealt with elsewhere in this annual report (Chapter 5).

1.2 Human Resources

The majority of staff members working for the Authority are relatively young and staff turnover is not common. The complement for the year in review has remained constant with 29 members of staff, the majority of whom are employed within the Monitoring Department. Towards the end of the year, the Deputy Head Monitoring resigned after more than two decades of service to the Authority.

As a dynamic entity, the Authority deploys a number of family friendly measures. During the year in review, two members of staff continued to benefit from a career break, while another three members work reduced hours. Meanwhile two monitoring officers have a teleworking

arrangement.

In its bid to ensure that the Gharghur Transmitting Tower is adequately catered for, the Authority renewed the contract of its Technical Consultant for another twelve-month period. The Technical Consultant is entrusted with the management, maintenance and technical requirements for this important hub which houses all the transmitters for nationwide radio stations as well as other services used by private telecommunications companies.

1.3 Staff Development

The Authority seeks to support those members of staff who pursue further formal qualifications to enhance their career and in so doing upgrade their skills. During the year in review, Joanna Spiteri, the Head of Monitoring, successfully defended her doctorate thesis and was awarded a Ph.D. from the University of Stirling in Scotland. Meanwhile, Laurence Buhagiar, the Deputy Head Monitoring, continued his Masters Degree in Human Resource Management and Training at the University of Leicester. Ian Sammut, Senior Programme Monitor, entered his second year of studies - he is following a Masters Course in Education for Sustainable Development at the University of Malta.

In the last quarter of the year in review, a number of training programmes were organised for all members of staff including the members of the management team. These sessions focused on a number of themes aimed at enhancing teamwork and improving efficiency. This training programme will be extended throughout 2015.

1.4 Sponsorship – Certificate Course in Proof Reading

As part of its reach-out programme, the Authority once again sponsored a number of broadcasters and journalists who opted to follow the one year part-time

course organised by the University of Malta leading to the Certificate in Proof Reading of the Maltese Language.

The following individuals benefitted from this sponsorship during the year in review:

- Dr Corazon Mizzi – a freelance broadcaster who presented the afternoon show TVPM on TVM
- Roderick Portelli from One Productions
- John Zammit from Media.link Communications Co. Ltd.

1.5 Sponsorship – Malta Journalism Awards

The Authority once again renewed its support to this annual event organised by the Institute of Journalists (IGM). As the entity responsible for regulating broadcasting, the Authority sponsors the categories that are directly linked to broadcasting.

The final night was held on Saturday 3rd May, and the winners of the respective categories were:

- Broadcast Journalism – Television Script News: Ruth Castillo (PBS Ltd)
- Broadcast Journalism – Television Script Features: Reno Bugeja/Mario Micallef (PBS Ltd)
- Broadcast Journalism – TV Film: The Xarabank Team (TVM)
- Broadcast Journalism – Radio: Andrew Azzopardi (Radju Malta)

1.6 EBU R128 Audio Standard

Following the introduction of this concept last year, the Authority stepped up its efforts to sensitize television broadcasters on the need to adopt this standard across all programmes. As most programmes in Malta are farmed out to independent production houses, a number of training programmes were organised throughout the year in a bid to ensure that those working in the industry do their utmost to produce programmes which are R128 compliant.

The Authority strongly believes that this is one area where self-regulation by the stations can come to the fore. Establishing this concept introduced by the European Broadcasting Union and which is already being implemented by a number of European countries ensures that the broadcasting industry in Malta will continue to evolve on a par with its European counterparts.

The Authority, through its consultant Daniel Talma from the Faculty of Media and Knowledge Sciences, also conducted random monitoring of sample broadcasts from all local television stations. Although initial results hint that some stations are doing their utmost to ensure that their output is compliant with this standard, some broadcasters are still hesitant to implement this concept, citing extra expense as the main reason for non-compliance.

The Authority will continue to monitor random samples of different programmes to draw up periodic reports on the state of play of the R128 standard in Malta. Whilst legislation would be the ultimate step in ensuring compliance with this standard, the Authority is confident that stations will readily adopt this concept over the coming months without the need of specific legislation under the Broadcasting Act.

1.7 Installation of the Television Capturing and Monitoring System (TVCMS)

The Authority had long been planning on revamping the way audio-visual media content was being captured and recorded for subsequent analysis by the Monitoring Department. Following discussions with the National Media Authority in Hungary, a collaboration agreement was signed between the two entities through which the Hungarians pledged to provide the specialized software free of charge to the Authority.

Following the adjudication of a tender for the purchase of the necessary hardware which was awarded to a Cypriot company (Logicom), engineers from Cyprus spent two weeks in August installing the hardware which was necessary for storage of audio-visual media files. Once this phase of the assignment was completed, a team of Hungarians visited Malta to install the software and conduct the necessary training.

The new system enables multiple users to access the same content from different work stations. The new system has increased efficiency and made it easier for members of the Monitoring Department to access material broadcast on all local television stations.

1.8 Visit by the President of the Republic

This visit followed a courtesy call by the members of the Broadcasting Authority which took place at the Palace in Valletta a few weeks after H.E Coleiro Preca was appointed as President of the Republic.

On October 3rd, H.E. Marie Louise Coleiro Preca visited the Broadcasting Authority to officially inaugurate the TVCMS. During her visit, the President met all the members of staff working at the Authority, and in her address, she stressed the importance of regulation in the broadcasting field, with particular emphasis on protection of minors and vulnerable people.

1.9 Corporate Social Responsibility

As part of its CSR programme, the majority of staff at the Authority opted to spend the entire day doing voluntary manual work at Dar Frate Jacoba in Marsascala. This was an initiative taken by the Monitoring Department and

the first of its kind for the Authority. Dar Frate Jacoba offers shelter to youngsters and adults alike who find themselves going through a rough patch. For most of the day, staff members lent a hand at plastering and pointing of walls in a new wing which is being developed to enlarge the home, while others dedicated their time to picking fennel seeds and packing them into small bags for eventual sale by the same house to generate funds for its day-to-day operation. At the end of the day, staff members also presented a donation to the priests running this voluntary project.

1.10 Collaboration Agreement with M3P Foundation

Over the years, the Authority amassed a wealth of audio-visual media material, in particular programmes which were produced for the Authority during the time when Channel 12 was in operation. The need has long been felt for this collection to be adequately catalogued and curated.

During the year in review, a comprehensive exercise was undertaken for this material to be catalogued. In August, the Authority signed a collaboration agreement with the M3P Foundation which is an NGO founded by Dr Toni Sant, with the primary objective of establishing a database of Maltese music and associated arts. Through this agreement, the Authority will benefit from archiving expertise which will ensure that the material currently housed at the Authority will be digitized and made available to researchers and other interested parties.

The agreement will also make it possible for the Foundation to secure specific funding which will be used for this project.

1.11 Għarghur Transmitting Facilities

A number of initiatives have been undertaken at this important site. Most importantly, infrastructural works carried out for the proper supply of power in relation to the installation of the smart meters. This project was successfully concluded in the initial quarter of the year in review.

Meanwhile, Kavalier Security Services was confirmed for another three-year period for the provision of security services after the company was awarded the tender published by the Authority in May.

Given that in late 2013, the Authority was informed by the Malta Air Traffic Control System that an interference by one of the local radio stations was being reported on a frequency used for air traffic management, the necessary measures were implemented to rectify the situation. A report submitted by engineers from the UK-based Alan Dick Company Ltd determined that the cause of the

interference was the Master Antenna. As the frequency causing the interference was 106.6FM (Radju Parlament) operated by PBS Ltd, discussions ensued to find a solution.

On the advice of the British engineers, the Authority informed PBS on the matter and recommended that the radio station migrates to another frequency which was unlikely to cause interference to the Air Traffic Control System. The change over from 106.6 to 105.9FM took place smoothly between the 23rd and the 24th of March and PBS Ltd ran a short campaign to inform listeners of the change in frequency of the station.

Following this migration of the frequency, the Authority commissioned another report to determine the way forward on the Master Antenna. As Malta has lacked a stand-by system for the past two decades, the British engineers were also asked to draw up a plan on the possibility of installing a back-up system on the antenna. This would allow periodic maintenance on the tower without the need for a complete switch-off of all radio signals. It is envisaged that this infrastructural project takes place in the second half of next year.

Urgent maintenance works which necessitated switch-off were conducted on 1st February and 17th June.

1.12 Rebranding and Use of Social Media

As part of a dynamic process, the Authority revamped its logo with a new corporate colour scheme. This was complemented with new stationery.

Furthermore, the introduction of social media tools has enabled the Authority to reach out to various sections of the public, in particular its stakeholders. Through its Facebook and Twitter accounts, the Authority posted regular updates.

All political broadcasts (including political spots) produced in relation to the MEP 2014 elections were uploaded on the Authority's YouTube Channel with some broadcasts registering more than 1,500 views.

1.13 Thematic Reports compiled by the Monitoring Department

Throughout the year, the Monitoring Department gave its input on the drafting of a new code for the Protection of Minors. Following a number of reports and after taking stock of the situation in local broadcasting vis-a-vis programming targeting minors, the Monitoring Department was pivotal for the publication of a consultation document on the proposed legislative changes to the Legal Notice on the protection of minors. The Department worked on a number of programme samples to analyse the situation in broadcasting,

particularly programming targeted at minors or programmes wherein minors participated.

An analysis of the Winter schedule and April-June schedule for TVM and TVM2 was compiled, and quantitative and qualitative reports were drawn up.

A descriptive report of the types of programmes presenting different games under the Lotteries and Other Games Act highlighted particular infringements to the Third Schedule of the Broadcasting Act. This report covered all types of games – Super 5, Lotto/Quaterno+, Grand Lottery and Scratchers. The report led to a number of changes in the broadcast of these programmes.

A qualitative report analysed Xejk television programming between 3rd and 8th June.

A descriptive report was commissioned that investigated the relationship between sponsorship and current affairs programmes in the light of the provisions of the AVMS governing sponsorship of programmes. The report analysed whether current affairs programmes on the nationwide television channels are being sponsored and thus having their programme content influenced.

A report analyzed the use of the Maltese Language in programmes of fashion and beauty and highlighted the areas which need to be addressed to ensure that such genres fully respect the proper use of the Maltese language.

A descriptive report followed by an analysis of cookery programmes and cookery slots served as the basis of the consultation document on hygiene standards and food safety in cookery programmes.

02

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCES

IN TERMS OF THE ARTICLE 41 OF THE BROADCASTING ACT, THE OFFENCES LISTED IN THE FIFTH SCHEDULE TO THE ACT ARE CONSIDERED TO BE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCES AND PUNISHABLE BY THE AUTHORITY. IN DETERMINING WHETHER A PERSON IS GUILTY OR OTHERWISE OF AN ADMINISTRATIVE OFFENCE, IT IS THE DUTY ON THE PART OF THE AUTHORITY TO ENSURE THAT THE PRINCIPLES OF A FAIR AND PUBLIC HEARING ARE OBSERVED AND GUARANTEED.

In the event that the Authority is satisfied that the person has committed an offence as listed in the First Column of the Fifth Schedule under the Act, it may: (a) issue a warning in writing; or (b) direct the offender not to broadcast for a period of time; (c) impose an administrative penalty as established in the second column of the Fifth Schedule to the Broadcasting Act, including applying a suspended penalty. The Authority may choose to apply separately or concurrently the measures listed in (b) and (c).

During the year in review, the Chief Executive issued a total of 48 charges against broadcasting stations. The issuing of charges and the procedures related to the hearing thereof are regulated under Article 41 of the Broadcasting Act and Subsidiary Legislation 350.07. During these proceedings the Authority acts as a quasi-judicial body where the Chief Executive acts as a prosecutor, which role is completely distinct from the other functions pertaining to his office.

The table hereunder represents the total number of charges processed by the Authority in 2014 according to station.

	Station	Charges
Television	TVM	12
	NET	7
	ONE	18
	F Living	2
	Smash TV	1
Nationwide Radios	RTK	1
	Magic Malta	1
	Calypso Radio	2
	Radju Malta	1
	Radio 101	2
	ONE Radio	1
TOTAL		48

The 48 charges were decided as follows: 25 warnings, 7 suspended sentences, 1 instance where the Authority did not proceed with the hearing of the case, and 2 instances where the charges were not proved. There were 13 instances where the station was found guilty of a breach under the Broadcasting Act, and a penalty under the Fifth Schedule to the same Act was imposed. During this period there were no charges issued against community radio stations.

**The Broadcasting Authority's staff
At Dar Frate Jacoba
26 September 2014**



03

BROADCASTING LICENCES

Article 10 (2) of the Broadcasting Act stipulates that:

“No person may provide sound or television broadcasting services in Malta for Malta or any part thereof without the licence in writing of the Authority, nor may any person retransmit sound or television broadcasting services from Malta to any foreign state without the licence in writing of the Authority.”

Apart from TVM and TVM2, both of which are licensed by the Government, the Authority licenses different genres of stations which at present include the following:

- free-to-air digital terrestrial television stations;
- commercial television stations;
- satellite television stations;
- nationwide analogue radio stations;
- nationwide digital radio stations (on the DAB+ network);
- analogue community radio stations.

3.1 Radio Broadcasting Licences

3.1.1 Community Radio Stations

Under the Broadcasting Act, licences issued to community radio stations can be of two types:

- a. permanent – 3 year term
- b. temporary – a maximum of one month duration.

During the year under review the Broadcasting Authority issued twenty-five licences for community radio stations:

- three were for new long term stations – R FM, Heart FM and Unique. (In total during 2014 thirty-one community radio stations were transmitting on a long term basis);
- twenty-two short-term licences were issued during the course of the year, some stations having requested more than one licence to transmit during different times of the year.

During the said period, Radju Vilhena’s frequency changed to 96.1MHz owing to the interference that was being reported by the Air Traffic Control section on the upper limit of the FM Band.

Following discussions with the Malta Communications Authority, it was decided that the licensed effective radiated power for any community radio station operating on the FM dial should not exceed 12 Watts. Such a measure was introduced to ensure that community stations do not operate with excessive power, which would result in spillage of the signal beyond the geographical location for which the stations were licensed.

Lic. No	Station	Duration	Valid From	Freq MHz	2014											
					Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
533	Radju Hompesch [Żabbar]	3 years	20-Mar-12	90	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
535	Trinitarji FM [Marsa]	3 years	01-Apr-12	89.3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
536	South End FM [Birżebbuġa]	3 years	15-Mar-12	91	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
539	Radio Messiah 97.8FM [Qormi]	3 years	01-May-12	97.8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
541/618	Lehen il-Belt Victoria [Rabat, Gozo]	3 years	25-Jun-12	104	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
545	Radio Galaxy [Hamrun]	3 years	14-Jun-12	105	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
558	Kottoner 98 FM [Cospicua]	3 years	29-Jul-12	98	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
563	Y4J Radio [Naxxar]	3 years	06-Oct-12	105.4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
564	Deejays Radio 95.6FM [San Ġwann]	3 years	23-Nov-12	96.5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
566	Radju Bambina [Xagħra, Gozo]	3 years	13-Dec-12	98.3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
567	Radju Sacro Cuor [Fontana, Gozo]	3 years	15-Nov-12	105.2	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
569	Radju Elenjani 95.8FM [Birkirkara]	3 years	03-Nov-12	95.8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
572	Radju Katidral [Rabat, Gozo]	3 years	01-Dec-12	90.9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
573	Radju Vizitazzjoni [Għarb, Gozo]	3 years	12-Dec-12	92.4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
574	Radju Luminarja [Nadur, Gozo]	3 years	14-Dec-12	106.9	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
579	Big FM [Birkirkara]	3 years	01-Jan-13	107.1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
580	Radju Lehen il-Qala [Qala]	3 years	17-Feb-13	106.3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
581	Radju Prekursur [Xewkija, Gozo]	3 years	19-Feb-13	99.3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
582	Radju Sokkors [Kerċem, Gozo]	3 years	01-Mar-13	95.1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
584	Lehen il-Belt Ġorġjana [Qormi]	3 years	01-Mar-13	105.6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
585	Energy FM [Fgura]	3 years	24-Mar-13	96.4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
598	Radju Santa Katarina [Żurrieq]	3 years	29-Jun-13	90.6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
602	BKR Radio 94.5FM [Birkirkara]	3 years	1-Aug-13	94.5	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
603	Radju Xeb-er-ras [Valletta]	3 years	25-Jul-13	90.8	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
606	Radio City 107.6FM [Valletta]	3 years	2-Dec-13	107.6	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
608	Bastjanizi FM [Qormi]	3 years	23-Nov-13	95	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
612	La Salle FM [Vittoriosa]	3 years	1-Dec-13	99.4	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
621	Radju Vilhena [Floriana]	3 years	14-Jan-14	96.1	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
617	R FM [Żebbuġ]	3 years	8-Feb-14	97.2		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
620	Heart FM [Paola]	3 years	2-Apr-14	94.3				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
636	Unique [Żabbar]	3 years	5-Aug-14	104.1								X	X	X	X	X
624	Intl Bible Students Association [Dolmen Hotel]	1 day	18-May-14	108					X							
637	2014 Reg Convention Jehovah's Witnesses [St Paul's Bay]	3 days	5-Sep-14	108									X			
619	Radju Lauretana [Għajnsielem, Gozo]	23 days	5-Apr-14	89.3				X								
627	Radju Lauretana [Għajnsielem, Gozo]	15 days	18-May-14	89.3					X							
633	Radju Lauretana [Għajnsielem, Gozo]	30 days	4-Aug-14	89.3								X				
642	Radju Lauretana [Għajnsielem, Gozo]	28 days	8-Dec-14	89.3												X
622	Radju Kazin Banda San Filep [Żebbuġ, Malta]	1 month	9-May-14	106.3					X							
623	Radio 12th May [Żebbuġ, Malta]	1 month	9-May-14	96.5					X							
625	Guzzeppini 891FM [Għaxaq]	1 month	15-May-14	89.1					X							
644	Guzzeppini 891FM [Għaxaq]	1 month	18-Dec-14	89.1												X
626	Tal-Gilju FM [Mqabba]	19 days	30-May-14	95.4						X						
639	Tal-Gilju FM [Mqabba]	17 days	28-Nov-14	95.4											X	
628	Radju Sant'Andrija [Luqa]	23 days	14-Jun-14	88.4						X						
640	Radju Sant'Andrija [Luqa]	14 days	20-Nov-14	88.4											X	
629	Radju Margerita 96.1FM [Sannat, Gozo]	29 days	1-Jul-14	96.1							X					
630	Lehen il-Karmelitani 101.4FM [Żurrieq]	1 month	1-Jul-14	101.4							X					
641	Lehen il-Karmelitani 101.4FM [Żurrieq]	1 month	1-Dec-14	101.4												X
631	Radio Leonardo 105.2FM [Kirkop]	11 days	14-Aug-14	105.2								X				
632	Radju Marija Assunta [Għaxaq]	1 month	20-Jul-14	98.9							X					
634	Radju 15 t'Awwissu [Qrendi]	23 days	25-Jul-14	98.3							X					
643	Radju 15 t'Awwissu [Qrendi]	20 days	14-Dec-14	98.3												X
635	Radju Marija Bambina [Mellieħa]	1 month	15-Aug-14	90.2								X				

3.1.2 Nationwide Analogue Radio (FM/AM)

The number of nationwide stations on the FM dial has remained unaltered at thirteen and this is the maximum limit of stations that the current combiner houses at Għargħur.

Of particular relevance is the licence issued to Vibe FM, given that the station's eight-year licence expired during the year in review. The station was issued a new eight-year analogue licence to operate on 88.7MHz.

In September, the Authority approved a request from the radio station 'Solid 100.20' to change its name to 'XFM'.

On 23 March, Radju Malta 2 migrated to a new frequency 105.9MHz (from 106.6MHz) owing to interference with Malta Air Traffic Control.

3.1.3 Digital Radio Platform

Established in 2008, Digi B+ operates the only digital radio platform in Malta and has rolled out a number of foreign stations together with most of the local analogue FM stations. During the year in review, no new radio stations were licensed by the Authority to broadcast exclusively on the DAB+ network. However, as the licences of Bay Easy and Bay Retro expired in July, new 4-year licences were issued for these two stations, licences now being issued to Eden Entertainment Ltd. Similarly All Rock's licence expired in October and this station was granted another 4-year licence.

The current line-up of local stations on the Digi B network is made up of Bay Easy, Bay Retro, Kiss, BKR Digital, All Rock and DJ956.

3.2 Nationwide Television and Satellite Stations

3.2.1 Television Stations

As iTV Shopping Channel's licence expired in August, the station was issued with another 4-year licence.

Meanwhile, a new teleshopping station Yes Lifestyle licensed in December 2013 started transmitting on Melita's network as from 1 February.

During the year in review, a total of three stations dedicated to teleshopping were broadcasting exclusively on the Melita network. However, Prime TV Shopping Channel, which had commenced operations in August 2011, ceased transmitting on 31 July.

3.2.2 Satellite Licences

Fifteen new satellite television licences were issued during 2014, making the total number of satellite tv licences currently transmitting under Maltese broadcasting legislation twenty-two. The new licences issued were Motowizja TV, Zest TV, TV Persia, Twoj, 4 Sem TV, Bukedde TV 1, Citizen TV, Channels, Ebonylife TV, Soundcity, Silverbird, Metro TV, Nollywood TV, Dragon Cinema and DOGTV.

Most satellite stations are of a niche nature, broadcasting a selection of programmes sourced from major production companies. This is a new concept in satellite broadcasting through which channel operators aggregate a selection of existing programmes produced by third parties and package them into a station.

04

BROADCASTING LEGISLATION

In 2013 the European Commission requested that Articles 10(1) and 16(I) of the Broadcasting Act (Chapter 350 of the Laws of Malta) be amended so that these two provisions are brought in line and fully comply with the transposition of the Audio Visual Media Services Directive. The Commission held that the wording of these two provisions was too broad and could be interpreted as limiting the freedom of reception and transmission. On the 24 July, through Act XXXII of 2014, Parliament promulgated the required amendments.

4.1 Consultation Documents

4.1.1 Correct use of the Maltese Language

On the 25 August, the Authority launched a consultation process through which it sought a reaction from the stakeholders for its proposals amending the Broadcasting Code on the Correct Use of the Maltese Language on the Broadcasting Media Regulations (Subsidiary Legislation 350.10) of the 26 March 2010. These amendments were intended to provide the necessary legislative tools so that said regulations could be effectively implemented and enforced in order to improve the use of the national language in the broadcasting media.

On the closing date (1st October) the Authority received a total of nine submissions and following a series of meetings with the Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti the final draft amendments were sent to the Ministry for

finalisation and subsequent promulgation during 2015.

A copy of the consultation document is found in Appendix 1.

4.1.2 Broadcasting Code for the Protection of Minors

The protection of minors in broadcasting is considered as one of the most important themes across Europe. Broadcasters are expected not to broadcast programmes which may seriously impair the physical, mental and moral development of minors. Under the Broadcasting Act, the Legal Notice dealing with the protection of minors was enacted in September 2000. Following the transposition of the Audio-Visual Media Services Directive (AVMS) in 2010, some minor amendments were introduced, but essentially the legislative framework focused entirely on advertising. The need has long been felt for new provisions to be introduced to address a wide spectrum of programming and ensure that minors are protected from any harmful content which they may access from time to time.

On the 5th September, the Authority launched a consultation process whereby changes to the existing legal notice could ensure that the Broadcasting Act addresses a spectrum of themes relating to minors, including personal, social, and psychological development as well as provisions to promote a healthy lifestyle whilst at the same time reflecting the new technology impacting the industry. Two of the

most important recommendations proposed in these amendments dealt with the definition attributed to 'minor' and the restriction on the use of minors during political activities and adverts.

The feedback was positive and a total of 11 submissions were received, including one from each of the three major television station operators, the Office of the Data Protection Commissioner, the Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Malti, the Commissioner for Children, and the Commission for Persons with Disability and the Nationalist Party.

Concurrently the European Commission has launched a working group focusing on the provisions of protections

of minors across multiple platforms. The Commission is rightly concerned on the protection of minors in non-linear media, and the working group is tasked with making recommendations which will be considered for adoption in the REFIT exercise of the Audio-Visual Media Services Directive. The Authority is represented on this working group through its Chief Executive.

To this effect, the Authority is awaiting the outcome of this working group to finalise the proposed amendments which will then be submitted to Cabinet for approval and promulgation during 2015.

A copy of the Consultation Document is found in Appendix 2.



Malta Journalism Awards 2014

Mr Anthony J Tabone, Chairman Broadcasting Authority with Reno Bugeja/Mario Micallef, winners of the Television Script – Features (left) and right with Ms Ruth Castillo winner of the Television Script – News Category



Malta Journalism Awards 2014

Mr Pierre Cassar, CEO Broadcasting Authority with Dr Andrew Azzopardi, winner of the Broadcast Journalism – Radio Award (left) and right with Mr Keith Demicoli winner of the Film Award

05

PROGRAMME
COMPLAINTS**5.01 PN vs PBS Ltd – TVAM [16 January]**

In a complaint against PBS Ltd dated 16 January the Nationalist party protested that an interview during the programme *TVAM* on the same day about the citizenship scheme with Mr Joe Vella Bonnici, the Executive Chairman of Identity Malta, was imbalanced.

The party held that, given the controversial nature of the subject and the position held by Mr Vella Bonnici, coupled with the political comments made by same, the Opposition should have been invited and its representative present in the studio to counter balance the discussion. The Nationalist Party contended that in the manner the slot was conducted, the viewers were presented with only one viewpoint on the issues involved and therefore it requested an effective remedy in terms of the law so that a proper balance would be achieved.

On the other hand the station argued that in actual fact it had planned to discuss the subject in two distinct slots during two different editions of the programme, with the first slot having two analysts and in the second slot two political figures, and that it was only after the respective participants declined its invitation at the last minute, that it decided to transform the slot into an informative one through the participation of Mr Vella Bonnici who at the time was the only guest that had confirmed his attendance. Citing the provisions of Subsidiary Legislation 350.14, the station said that balance could be achieved over a series of programmes

and, as reflected in its reply to the Party, its original intention was to have contrasting views about the scheme represented by analysts. The station further pointed out that the day after the airing of said slot, it had included a slot which featured representatives of both the PL and PN.

The Authority, taking into account the submissions of the parties and after having closely reviewed the content of the slot in question, pointed out that in its documented reaction to the complaint of the Nationalist Party, the station had already offered a slot during a subsequent edition of *TVAM* to remedy the situation and provided the viewer with a more comprehensive perspective. In addition, the Authority held that the exclusive participation of a Government official during a programme did not automatically constitute an imbalance, provided the nature of said participation is informative. It argued that in the case under discussion, this was not completely the case, since during the said slot Mr Vella Bonnici had made comments which required a reaction and therefore the presence of an additional guest with contrasting views for the benefit of the viewers.

Referring to the provisions under Subsidiary Legislation 350.14, the Authority argued that if the intention of the station was that of providing the contrasting views during a second slot in a different edition of the same programme, than it was duty bound to inform the viewers about the same including the

date. The Authority pointed out that in actual fact the station did not meet this requirement and therefore the viewer was not aware that the subject would be further discussed in a subsequent edition.

In view of these considerations, and without interfering with the right to freedom of expression pertaining to each and every participant in a programme, the Authority underlined the duty of the station to warrant that comments of a controversial nature were balanced out and all the viewpoints were expressed in full compliance with the principle of impartiality as spelled out in the Constitution and the ordinary law. In this regard the Authority ordered the station to implement its offer to the Nationalist Party and invite its representative during a subsequent edition of the said programme to discuss the contrasting viewpoint on the citizenship scheme as presented by Mr Vella Bonnici during the programme of the 16th January. This remedy was to be effected not later than one week from the date of this decision.

5.02 PN vs PBS Ltd – *Dissett* [27 February]

This programme dealt with, amongst other subjects, the citizenship scheme, the Police corps, and the Army. The Nationalist Party complained that the Minister for Home Affairs and National Security was the only guest. The Party argued that, apart from the fact that the subjects treated were intrinsically of a controversial nature, the Minister had made political comments about the said Party. The Party held that, even though balance could be achieved on a number of programmes, the fact that the station failed to remedy the situation within a reasonable time, constituted in itself an imbalance which needed to be addressed.

On its part, the station argued that in view of past decisions by the Authority, even though it was desirable that balance was achieved in each programme, the fact that a programme had one guest and was conducted as a one-to-one interview, did not automatically and necessarily render the programme imbalanced. In addition the station contended that during the programme the presenter was continuously challenging the Minister's arguments, and this in itself created the necessary balance even though there was no counterpart present in the studio. The station highlighted the fact that it had already planned another programme about the same topics for the 10 April and that this time the only guest would be a representative from the Opposition.

The Authority, after considering the submissions of the station, and in particular that it was planning to have another edition of the said programme with the sole

representation of the Opposition, decided that the matter was exhausted and the need for its intervention had been superseded.

5.03 PN vs PBS Ltd – *TVM News* [27 February]

In its complaint the Nationalist Party referred to a news feature about issues discussed by the Minister for Home Affairs and National Security during the edition of *Dissett* dated 27 February. The Party contended that the station had reported the Minister's reaction to comments he had previously made in relation to the introduction of the citizenship scheme, whereas it completely omitted and failed to include the revelations on the matter by the Honourable Jason Azzopardi during *Realtà*. The party argued that this omission demonstrated that the station was being selective in its reporting and that, whilst the reaction by the Minister was considered as newsworthy, the initial revelation was not. The Party contended that this was an exercise in gate keeping and constituted an imbalance against the Opposition.

In its counter arguments the station pointed out that, notwithstanding the fact that the revelation by the Honourable Jason Azzopardi was not reported, the feature had included the comments of the Leader of the Opposition on the same subject during a political activity the next day through a sound bite. The station held that, in view of this, it was evident that the Minister was not reacting to the revelation by the Honourable Jason Azzopardi but to the comments of the Leader of the Opposition, which comments it had reported.

In its decision the Authority held that even though it was true that the station failed to report the revelation of the Honourable Jason Azzopardi, it had reported extensively the comments about the same subject by the Leader of the Opposition; said report also included a sound bite. The Authority noted that in its report of the 27 February the station had introduced the Minister's reaction by citing the Leader of the Opposition's demand for the resignation of the said Minister, and the actual script of the news feature does not substantiate and confirm the claim of the Nationalist Party that the station had been selective in its reporting.

In view of this, the Authority held that the complaint of the Nationalist Party was not justified.

5.04 PN vs PBS Ltd – *TVM News* [11 March]

The Party contended that this news bulletin was a clear example of blatant manipulation by the station and that the newsroom was promoting the Government's agenda through the narrative and the length of its reports. The complaint actually concerned two news features, namely

one regarding the sale of Enemalta shares and the other a Press Conference by the Leader of the Opposition in which he analysed the Government's first year.

The Authority said that, notwithstanding the distinct nature of the features, it was of the view that the reporting was fair and balanced and the complaint of the Nationalist Party about the length of the introduction was not justified since the features called for a different approach. The Authority held that the report about the Press Conference was extensive and covered the salient points discussed by Dr Simon Busuttil during this activity, and the claim that the station had purposely omitted to report important parts of the arguments raised by Dr Busuttil was not justified. In addition the reporting of the Government's reaction to the issues raised by Dr Busuttil during the said activity formed part of the editorial policy of the station and this could be confirmed by the fact that the station had also reported a reaction of the Nationalist Party to a Press Conference by the Prime Minister about the first year in Government the previous day.

The Authority held that the reporting of data issued by the National Statistics Office on the same day was consonant to the common practice adopted by the station in such cases and in view of the same the station refrained from reporting the press releases by the Government, Nationalist Party and Labour Party on the same subject.

In view of these arguments, the Authority decided that the complaint by the Nationalist Party was not justified and consequently could not be upheld.

5.05 PN vs PBS Ltd – TVAM [11-12 March]

The Nationalist Party contended that the two editions of TVAM with the participation of the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition respectively were manipulated and this contributed to a situation of imbalance in both editions. The Party argued that an analysis of the two interviews revealed a marked difference in the approach and attitude of the presenter in regard to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition. Whereas the interview with the Prime Minister was conducted in a tone and manner conducive of assisting the interviewee, the other interview had a somewhat negative bias and approach, which proved advantageous to the Labour Party. The Party pointed out that, in addition, during the interview the Prime Minister was afforded ample time to reply whereas the Leader of the Opposition was asked twice as many questions resulting in less time to reply. This the Party argued resulted in imbalance against the same.

In its initial submission, a representative of the Editorial Board who had been presented by the station as a witness argued that, following a thorough discussion, the Board was of the opinion that the two interviews were conducted fairly and that there was no reason to find fault in the presenter's approach. The station further pointed out that it had made it clear from the start that every effort should be made so that the two interviews, which dealt with the first year of Labour Government, were conducted fairly and that the two guests were afforded the same treatment as far as time and approach were concerned. The station highlighted the fact that in the case of the Leader of the Opposition the replies were somewhat shorter and therefore the presenter had to revert to supplementary questions to make up for remaining time.

The Authority held that the complaint concerned primarily two issues which, according to the Nationalist Party, brought about an imbalance in favour of the Government, namely, the number of questions put forward to both guests in the respective editions and the alleged bias by the presenter when conducting the said interviews. The Authority noted that the two interviews were both around 38 minutes in length and that the number of questions put forward to the Leader of the Opposition was greater than the number set for the Prime Minister. The Authority said that, notwithstanding this difference, during the respective interviews the two guests were afforded sufficient time to respond, and it did not transpire that there was any undue interruption from the presenters who could ask all the questions they deemed to be of interest to the viewer as long as they were fair and not hostile to their guests.

In addition the Authority noted that there was no hard and fast rule when it comes to the time taken by guests to respond to questions and that, as long as there were no deliberate interruptions and/or pressure from the presenters, the inclusion of supplementary questions was recognised practice and acceptable. The Authority concluded that the two programmes did not present a situation of hostility and that the approach in both programmes was consonant/in line with common practice and had been adopted in other programmes. The Authority stated that it disagreed with the claim made by the Nationalist Party that the language used by the presenters exposed an element of bias against the Opposition.

In view of these arguments the Authority decided that the complaint by the Nationalist Party was not justified and could not be upheld.

5.06 PN vs PBS Ltd - *Dissett* [20 March]

This programme discussed the plans of the government to store LNG Gas for the new Power station on a tanker berthed at Marsaxlokk. On the 7 April the Nationalist Party complained that the said programme dealt with an issue of political controversy and the choice of guests and the manner it was conducted was intended to promote and support the plans of the Government in relation to the same issue. The Party argued that, notwithstanding the fact that one of the three experts present in the studio was against the intended project and that one of the recorded comments was made by Dr Ann Fenech, in actual fact the view of the Opposition was not represented and therefore the programme was not balanced.

The station contended that the choice of expert guests was intended to provide the viewer with a balanced discussion on the scientific and technical aspects of the project and its implications, and not just opinions. The station argued that the discussion on the issue was not only one of a political nature, and the viewer had the right to be exposed to technical arguments for and against the said project.

The Authority said that it could not understand how the expert intervention within the programme could constitute imbalance. The Authority argued that following an analysis of the submissions of the parties, it transpired that none of the expert guests was engaged and paid for by the Government, and therefore the claim by the Nationalist Party that this was intended to promote the position taken by the Government was inadmissible. In addition, the Authority highlighted the fact that during the programme the three main parties were afforded equal treatment through the inclusion of three separate recorded comments. The Authority said that the choice of expert guests was a decision by the station, and said decision could not result in any form of imbalance.

In view of this the Authority held that it could not find against the station and declare the content of the programme or the manner it was conducted as being imbalanced against the Nationalist Party.

5.07 PN vs PBS Ltd - *TVM News* [20 March]

On 7th April, the Nationalist Party complained of the fact that, whereas the station reported quite extensively (including with sound bites) a Press Conference by the Honourable Minister for Transport and Infrastructure, it completely ignored/omitted a press release by the said Party relating to transport issues, in particular the increase in tariffs and driving licences which, according to the Party, was a matter of political controversy and

newsworthy. The Party argued that with this omission the station failed to present its views about this important subject.

In the second part of the complaint the Party contended that in its news feature regarding the edition of *Dissett* which dealt with the Gas-fired Power Station Project, the fact that the station decided to present the viewer with one side of the story resulted in an imbalanced report.

The Station argued that the scheme referred to by the Nationalist Party had not been launched during the Press Conference in question and that the Minister was just giving an update on the scheme for VAT refund on vehicle registration, and statistical data on the number of applications received, and the objective underlying the report was to encourage all those eligible to come forward and make their claim. This the station claimed was not at all controversial. The press release of the Nationalist Party referred to issues already reported and did not in any way mention the refund scheme discussed by the Minister in the relative report. The station highlighted the fact that the information provided by the Minister did not merit a reply and the press release was not in any way related. It contended that seeking a comment or a reply to each and every report of a Minister was not a recognised journalistic norm.

In relation to the report on *Dissett* the station said that the journalist had an obligation to report the salient points of the discussion during the programme and the issues raised by the experts present during the same, and there was never the intention of creating an unfair/unbalanced scenario.

In its decision the Authority held that the station had treated the two stories fairly and in a correct manner and that the press release could not be considered as a reply or reaction to what was said by the Minister during the Press Conference and therefore the station was not obliged to report it. Further in this regard the Authority pointed out that the contents of the said press release were in actual fact already reported in other news bulletins. The Authority held that in reporting the contribution of experts during *Dissett* the station was fair and said action did not constitute imbalance. In view of this the Authority decided that the complaint was not justified and therefore it could not uphold it.

5.08 PN vs PBS Ltd - *Issa Nista'*

On the 18 April the Nationalist Party complained about the airing of government information spots which it deemed of a propagandistic and politically charged nature. The Party contended that the content of said

spots dealt with matters of political controversy and the fact that they were not presenting the different views to the public constituted an imbalance which needed to be addressed. The Party therefore requested a remedy in the form of a right to communicate its counter arguments by being allowed to broadcast an equal number of spots on the same station.

The station argued that with regard to information spots issued by the Government and other public entities, the policy adopted for a number of years was clear and consistent. It highlighted the fact that the spots under discussion were in effect quite similar to other productions broadcast in the past and therefore the station had no problem moving ahead and allowing the broadcasts.

The Authority acknowledged the station's arguments that these spots were similar to others produced under a different administration. Nevertheless, the fact that there had been no complaints in the past did not in any way impinge on the matter under discussion.

The Authority added that one could not conclude that all the spots forming part of this campaign were of a political nature, as substantial parts were informative. It highlighted the fact that in terms of Paragraph 12.4 under Subsidiary Legislation 350.14, *"impartiality does not mean that balance is required in any simple mathematical sense"*. The Authority further held that the provisions under the Constitution and the Broadcasting Act require that contrasting views on matters of political or industrial controversy, or current public policy are adequately conveyed to the general public. The Authority reiterated that balance could be achieved on a series of programmes, and therefore in this case it was called to determine whether the said spots had created an imbalance and whether the contrasting views had in actual fact been conveyed, and this within the context of the right to freedom of expression. In its considerations, the Authority referred to the decision by the Court of Appeal in the case regarding Malta's membership in the EU and the spots produced by MIC, in which decision the court held that, *"spots minkejja li bl-ebda mod ma jkunu kkunsidrati illegali xorta wahda jnisslu l-ħtieġa li fehmiel oħrajn għal dak li jgħidu huma jiġu mismugħa wkoll."*

In actual fact, the Broadcasting Act did not prohibit the use of spots/productions by the Government and the Authority acknowledged the fact that the station could find it difficult to decide which spots to accept under the heading of public service announcements, and it also acknowledged the fact that in this regard the station could be held to blame.

In its decision the Authority argued that the spots under discussion included some parts which constitute comments on issues of public policy and dealt with subjects of a controversial nature and therefore did merit to be balanced out by other contrasting views, and in this regard the complaint was upheld. On the other hand the Authority decided that the request by the Nationalist Party for identical treatment was not justified since this was not a necessary feature in achieving balance.

In view of these considerations, and in so far as the remedy was concerned it awarded the complainant 30% of the actual air time of the spots/productions broadcast by the Government in its campaign 'Issa Nista' so that it could convey its views exclusively and limitedly on the issues raised and dealt with during said spots/productions. The Authority further directed that said spots could not be less than 30 seconds in duration and were to be clearly identified as productions by the Nationalist Party. In addition they had to be broadcast after the 25 May over a period of six weeks and as scheduled in collaboration with the Authority and the station.

5.09 Alternattiva Demokratika vs ONE and ONE Radio

On 22 April, Alternattiva Demokratika complained against ONE and One Radio, alleging a breach of sub-paragraph 3(2) of the Directive issued by the Authority in relation to European Parliament Elections, contending that the stations failed to invite its candidates/representatives in programmes broadcast as part of the Election campaign.

AD argued that the Directive covered the period between 11 April and 24 May and was clear and unequivocal, imposing an obligation on all broadcasting stations to invite representatives from the three main political groups in programmes discussing matters of political or industrial controversy or current public policy. AD claimed that a successive interpretation by the Broadcasting Authority of the said disposition did not change anything as far as the Directive was concerned.

The station contended that the Directive and its successive interpretation were clear and representation was not necessarily tied to each and every programme but could be achieved on a series of programmes, and in this sense the station was honouring its obligation and adhering to the said Directive. The station said that the programme schedule was predominantly featuring political activities, nevertheless with the introduction of a number of new programmes, in particular a show every morning, the station was committed to implement and adhere to its obligations. The station confirmed that it had planned a number of invitations to AD.

The Authority, taking note of the commitment and plans of the station to fully conform to its Directive, decided to refrain from taking further action against the said station.

5.10 Alternattiva Demokratika vs Net TV and Radio 101

In a complaint against NET TV and RADIO 101, Alternattiva Demokratika alleged a breach of sub-paragraph 3(2) of the Directive issued by the Authority in relation to European Parliament Elections and contended that the stations failed to invite its candidates/representatives in programmes broadcast as part of the Election campaign.

AD argued that the Directive covered the period between 11 April and 24 May and was clear and unequivocal, imposing an obligation on all broadcasting stations to invite representatives from the three main political groups in programmes discussing matters of political or industrial controversy or current public policy. AD claimed that a successive interpretation by the Broadcasting Authority of the said disposition did not change anything as far as the Directive was concerned.

The Station argued that in actual fact it had replied to the complaint by AD in the sense that it had issued an invitation to take part in a programme, and this besides the fact that it was standard editorial policy to cover AD activities in the news. The Station stated that the successive interpretation of the said Directive by the Authority implied that representation could be achieved over a series of programmes and in this regards the station was committed to fully conform.

The Authority took note of the commitment of the station and decided to refrain from taking further action against same.

5.11 Partit Alleanza Bidla vs PBS Ltd – Xarabank [16 May]

In its complaint the Party referred to its participation during this special edition of the programme *Xarabank* and to the fact that a debate featuring the three smaller parties was broadcast after midnight and therefore it was not possible for most of the viewers to actually follow this part of the programme. In addition the party complained of the fact that a pre-recorded 30 second biography of its leader was also broadcast late and that in order to avoid this situation the station should not have inserted a dancing and a singing part.

The station contended that the format of the programme was set well ahead of the Directive the Authority issued. Initially the programme was to feature a debate between the two main political parties and the inclusion of an AD representative in the latter part. The

station said that subsequently it was agreed that the programme would in actual fact include two debates and this meant that the duration of the programme had to be increased. Later as a result of the Directive issued by the Authority and further internal instructions it was decided that the three smaller parties would be afforded 10 minutes each and this brought about a further extension of the duration. These developments and the time allocated to party productions and political spots under the political broadcast scheme had an adverse effect on the original running order of the programme, which in turn brought about the undesirable outcome.

The Authority held that even though the station had adhered to its Directive and provided the three smaller contesting parties with the required facility and airtime the fact that the interview was broadcast after midnight was wrong. The Authority pointed out that the station could have taken remedial action in order to avoid these slots being broadcast so late, even by eliminating the entertainment parts, more so when this was a special edition of the programme aimed at introducing all the candidates and their policies.

In view of this the Authority decided in favour of Alleanza Bidla and upheld its complaint nevertheless given the fact that the following edition of *Xarabank* was to be broadcast on the day of silence, it could not accept the request by the party to have the interview and biography repeated in that edition. In addition, the Authority noted that in actual fact the station had since invited the leader of the Party to take part in other programmes on TVM such as TVAM and therefore no further action was required.

5.12 PN vs PBS Ltd – TVM News [5 May]

On 9 May, the Nationalist Party complained of the fact that in a news item citing a report issued by the European Commission about the Maltese economy the station failed to mention that the Commission's positive economic projections for the following year were heavily dependent on the fact that the new power station would be completed on time and no delays would be registered. The party contended that this important element, which was also reported in an online local newspaper, was completely omitted from the said news report and besides the station decided to include the reaction of the Government over this report whilst leaving out a press release on the subject by the Opposition. The Party highlighted the fact that this was a subject of political controversy and that as such the decision of the station to report the views of the Government and to censure the Opposition brought about an imbalance against the Party.

The station argued that in line with its editorial policy it did not report other press releases in relation to the Commission's report, namely a press release by the Minister for the Economy, the Labour Party and a teleconference with the Minister of Finance. Further the station claimed that if it had to report all the press releases issued its news bulletin would be transformed into notice boards. In fact the station had introduced an editorial policy which, on the one hand allowed for the reporting of all political activities, but restricted the reporting of press releases.

The Authority held that the station had reported adequately and comprehensively the European Commission's report about the Maltese economy and covered all the relevant and principal elements of same, and therefore the complaint of the Nationalist Party was not justified.

5.13 PN vs PBS Ltd –TVM News [5 MAY]

In another complaint relating to the same News Bulletin, the Nationalist Party contended that a news feature about allegations by the Prime Minister over the track record of the Nationalist Party in the attainment of European funds for Gozo had already been previously broadcast, and notwithstanding the fact that the Party had issued a reaction it was not broadcast. The Party highlighted the fact that this complaint presented two main issues, namely the fact that the station had reported for a second time and repeated a news item and secondly the failure on the part of the same station to report the reaction of the Party to what was said by the Prime Minister.

The station referred to its editorial policy for press releases and contended that in this case it had applied said policy and decided not to report the press release which was in reply to comments made by the Prime Minister.

The Party said that the decision by the station constituted an imbalance against it and the station could not decide to completely ignore its release simply because it referred to issues not referred to by the Prime Minister.

The Authority noted that the subject relating to European Union funds for Gozo was already dealt with in two reports highlighting the view of the Prime Minister and in another two reports presenting the view of the Leader of the Opposition. The Authority took note of the editorial policy adopted by the station, and argued that the contrasting views of the two sides had already been adequately reported and therefore the decision of the station not to broadcast the Nationalist Party's press release did not constitute an imbalance. In view of this the

Authority considered the complaint to be unjustified.

5.14 Nazzareno Bonnici vs ONE Productions

In his complaint dated the 19 May, Mr Nazzareno Bonnici contended that the station refused to adhere to its obligations under the Authority's Directive on the participation in private stations' programmes of smaller groups/parties contesting the MEP elections, and in fact had refused to invite him. In view of this Mr Bonnici requested the intervention of the Authority.

The Authority, considering the facts of the case and after verifying that Mr Bonnici had not been invited on any programme of ONE and ONE Radio, decided that this complaint was justified and noting that the station had been given a suspended penalty for another breach of its Directive, declared the original penalty effective and payable within one month of the notification.

5.15 Alternattiva Demokratika vs ONE Productions

In its complaint dated the 19 May, Alternattiva Demokratika contended that the station refused to adhere to its obligations under the Authority's Directive on the participation in private stations' programmes of smaller groups/parties contesting the MEP elections, and in fact had failed to invite its representatives/candidates. In view of this Alternattiva Demokratika requested the intervention of the Authority.

The Authority, considering the facts of the case and after verifying that AD had not been invited on any programme of ONE and ONE Radio, decided that this complaint was justified and noting that the station had been given a suspended penalty for another breach of its Directive under Article 15 of the Broadcasting Act, declared the original penalty effective and payable within one month of the notification.

5.16 Imperium Ewropa vs PBS Ltd – Xarabank [16 May]

The complainant argued that the debate between representatives from the three smaller parties was broadcast very late and after midnight and therefore it was not possible for most of the viewers to follow. In addition the 30 second biography slot and interview was also broadcast at a late hour and the station should have taken the necessary measures so that this part of the programme was broadcast earlier and at a more convenient time. The complainants, whilst acknowledging the measures and the initiative of the Authority, considered this treatment by the station as discriminatory.

The station contended that the format of the programme was set well ahead of the Directive the

Authority issued. Initially the programme was to feature a debate between the two main political parties and the inclusion of an AD representative in the later part. The station said that subsequently it was agreed that the programme would in actual fact include two debates and this meant that the duration of the programme had to be lengthened. Later as a result of the Directive issued by the Authority and further internal instructions it was decided that the three smaller parties would be afforded 10 minutes each and this brought about a further extension of the duration. These developments and the time allocated to party productions and political spots under the political broadcast scheme had an adverse effect on the original running order of the programme, which in turn brought about the undesirable outcome.

The Authority, basing its decision on an identical complaint by Alleanza Bidla, held that notwithstanding the fact that the station adhered to its Directive and afforded the requested airtime to the three small political groups, it had treated the same unfairly when the respective interviews were broadcast after midnight. The Authority argued that the station could have taken remedial action and avoided the objectionable result.

In view of these considerations, the Authority upheld the complaint but given the fact that the political group had been invited on other programmes, did not award a remedy.

5.17 Imperium Ewropa vs PBS Ltd – Għandi Xi Ngħid

In this case the party complained that it was treated by the station in a discriminatory manner in that, whereas the slots allocated to other political parties and groups were broadcast live, in its case the slot had to be pre-recorded.

In deciding this case the Authority considered the declaration of the complainant that, notwithstanding the discriminatory treatment, its message and views were conveyed. The Authority further noted that the law did not identify a particular format for effective participation in a programme and decided that this complaint was not justified and that the allegation of discrimination had not been proved. It did not take any steps against the station.

5.18 Birdlife Malta vs PBS Ltd – Animal Diaries [12 April and 3 May] and slot in TVAM [29 April and 6 May]

Birdlife Malta contended that, whilst it acknowledged the fact that *Animal Diaries* had to be balanced through the participation of the hunters Federation, in actual fact the time allocated to the said Federation exceeded

that afforded to the organisation, rendering the said programme unbalanced. It argued that this situation was repeated during the programme *TVAM* which included an interview with representatives of FKNK, but there were no representatives of Birdlife Malta who could react. Given the timing, the complainant declared that it was not expecting an immediate remedy but was seeking assurance that in the future the station acted in an impartial and balanced manner in relation to the hunting controversy.

The station, whilst rebutting the claim of the complainant that the programmes were partial and unbalanced, contended that it always sought to present the viewers with all the contrasting views about the hunting controversy. It argued that this was reflected in the fact that Birdlife Malta had been invited on a number of Current Affairs programmes. The station further stated that, on its own initiative, it had taken remedial action to compensate for the lack of balance in an edition of *Animal Diaries* of the 12 April through the production of a documentary broadcast on the 3 May and two spots during *TVAM*, and had also drawn the attention of the producer and presenter about the need for a balanced approach when discussing such issues.

The Authority acknowledged the effort of the station to provide the required balance and impartiality on the subject and highlighted the fact that Broadcasting Legislation provided that in this regard balance and impartiality could be achieved on a series of programmes and further that balance was not necessarily a mathematical equation dependent on the amount of time allocated.

The Authority also noted that besides the filing of a complaint, in terms of the provisions under Subsidiary Legislation 350.14, the complainant did not avail itself of the right to request a right of reply in order to rebut any claims made by FKNK during the said programme.

In view of this the Authority held that the complaint was not justified and decided that there was no cause for further action.

5.19 Dr Martin Fenech noe vs PBS Ltd – Xarabank [6 June]

This edition of *Xarabank* discussed the perjury case involving a mother who allegedly persuaded her daughter to lie about her father, who spent nearly 400 days in jail after he was found guilty of defiling his daughter. The complainant, who incidentally was the defence lawyer, contended that the edition of the said programme besides being biased was prejudicial to the case before the courts and the rights of his client.

The complainant, through written submission, listed and identified the parts of the programme he deemed to be objectionable and which ran counter to the two Constitutional rights of his client i.e. the right to a fair hearing and the presumption of innocence. The complainant argued that the presenter had manipulated the programme in such a manner that he shifted the blame of what had happened onto his client.

The station, whilst rebutting the claims of manipulation on the part of the presenter, highlighted the fact that this edition of the programme was intended to explore the hardship endured by a person who had spent time in prison whilst presumably being innocent. The station argued that through this programme the producers wanted to draw the attention of Parliament to take the necessary action so that in such a case there are legal options which would enable the mistakenly convicted individual to clear his name.

The station further pointed out that during the said programme it was repeatedly stated that the fact that someone was found to be innocent did not imply that another was guilty and that the 10 minute interview with the daughter of the interested parties (which in actual fact lasted one hour), had been edited so as not to prejudice other legal proceedings and was requested by the daughter herself.

In its considerations, whilst acknowledging the Fundamental Right of Freedom of Expression and the right of the journalist to investigate facts so as to arrive to the truth, the Authority said that these rights were not absolute and in certain cases could be subjected to restrictions and formalities in order to safeguard and protect other more important rights. The Authority highlighted the fact that, following a press release by the Commission for the Administration of Justice, it had also pronounced itself on the matter, stressing the need for broadcasting stations to respect and safeguard the right to a fair hearing and the presumption of innocence of the involved parties.

In view of these arguments, the Authority, whilst acknowledging the fact that there was a fine line between the right to freedom of expression and the breach of third party rights in judicial proceedings, was of the opinion that in the case under discussion this line was in fact exceeded and certain comments and the content of the programme could have led the viewer to make assumptions and conclusions about the innocence or otherwise of third parties. The Authority held that this was in breach of the dispositions in paragraph 8.9 under Subsidiary Legislation 350.14 and upheld the complaint. It recommended greater attention on the part of the

station so that similar incidents are not repeated. In the circumstances of the case, it did not deem it fit to award a remedy.

5.20 PN vs PBS Ltd – *Times Talk* [4 November]

This complaint concerned the edition of the programme which discussed the issues relating to Traffic and Public Transport with the participation of the Honourable Joe Mizzi in the studio and a comment by a representative of the Opposition by phone.

The Party contended that the subject was one of political controversy and current public policy and therefore all the rules safeguarding impartiality had to be applied. The Party argued that in this case the principle of 'equality of arms' as protected by the Constitution was not adhered to and it was unacceptable that the only intervention by the Opposition was to be limited to a telephone intervention. The Party claimed that, even though the Government was continuously being scrutinised, the role of the Opposition was important and this could not be sidelined.

The producers claimed that the programme was not intended to be a debate but an informative session with the Minister wherein, through a journalistic and investigative approach, he could reply and discuss possible solutions to the existing problems in this sector, which after all fell under his responsibility. They argued that in actual fact the programme raised a number of issues of public interest and news value.

The station contended that when discussing the format of the programme with the producers the issue of participation by the Nationalist Party and Alternattiva Demokratika was raised and in fact the two parties were eventually invited to participate by phone. The station claimed that during the said programme the Minister had to answer as many questions as possible and as such, whilst it was important to present the views of others, it was not essential to have a debate.

The station further pointed out that in the past the Authority had authorised programmes of a one-to-one nature and in this case the main aim of the producers was to gain as much information from the Minister as possible. The station said that if programmes of the sort were acceptable, then balance could still be achieved through an intervention by telephone, even more so given that the law did not require a level of balance in mathematical terms.

The Authority held that there was no doubt that the issues discussed during the programme were of a current public policy nature and therefore the station was obliged to adhere to the provisions under Article 119 of

the Constitution. It highlighted the fact that the format of the programme was not 'one on one' since there were other guests on the panel and that even the station had felt the need to include the participation of the Nationalist Party and Alternattiva Demokratika and these were eventually invited to take part either through telephone or a recorded clip.

The Authority noted that, whereas Alternattiva Demokratika had accepted the offer, the Nationalist Party felt that it was unfair and unjust that it was not provided with adequate possibility to air its views and as a result decided to decline the invitation. Referring to paragraph 12.5 of Subsidiary Legislation 350.14, the Authority argued that in programmes discussing matters of political or industrial controversy or current public policy participation should be balanced and reflects all the different views. The Authority held that in this programme this principle was not respected. In addition the Authority pointed out that paragraph 13.1.3 of the said legislation provided that in situations where an interested party declines an invitation and refuses to participate, it was the duty of the presenter to expose and transmit the views of the said party. In the case under discussion this obligation was not implemented.

On the issue whether the physical participation during the programme and an intervention by telephone was in line with the dispositions of Article 119 of the Constitution,

the Authority held that this was not the case and the two parties were not afforded a fair apportionment of facilities and time.

The Authority further claimed that the producers could not attribute their decision not to invite the Nationalist representative to physically participate in the programme to the fact that the programme was of an informative nature and not a debate, and this argument was not valid. The Authority pointed out that there were various ways to produce a balanced programme without having a debate and in the case under review the producers failed to revert to such means.

In conclusion the Authority held that, without implying that balance was achieved simply through mathematical calculations, the manner in which each party was allowed to convey its message needed to be taken into account when analysing whether balance and impartiality were actually achieved. In this case one could not deem as equal treatment the fact that one party was invited to intervene telephonically whereas another was invited to be present in the studio with ample time to elaborate its arguments.

In view of these considerations the Authority held in favour of the complainant and upheld the complaint but in the circumstances did not deem it fit to take further action against the station.

06

POLITICAL BROADCASTS

6.1 European Parliament Elections - Political Broadcasts

The European Parliament Elections were held on the 24 May. In virtue of the powers conferred by Articles 15 and 23 of the Broadcasting Act, the Broadcasting Authority issued a Directive outlining the rules to be adopted by all broadcasting stations during the period 11 April to 24 May. In principle this Directive was based on the one issued in 2009, but in this case the Authority felt it had to provide further guidance and a clear interpretation of Paragraph 3(2) of the said Directive, which provides that;

“All programmes which concern any aspect of a political or an industrial controversy or which refer to current public policy which are broadcast with effect from 11th April to 24th May 2014 have to be balanced. This requires that in such programmes all diverse opinions on the subject under consideration have to be included and, therefore, representatives of the Partit Laburista, Partit Nazzjonalista and Alternattiva Demokratika shall participate in these programmes.”

The Authority held that with regards to the smaller groups, movements, and parties a restricted interpretation of this provision, was deemed to be unfair and would cause considerable problems to the producers, besides not serving the general interest. It argued that the spirit of this provision required a fair participation and exposure of all diverse opinions and that as far as these contestants were concerned, balance could be achieved

on a series of programmes.

In addition, the Authority decided not to continue imposing a restriction on the number of candidates' appearances in the same programmes, (which had been established as not more than three), claiming that given a situation where smaller political groups had fielded one or two candidates this would be unfair and drastically limit their possibility of conveying their message.

In virtue of Article 13(4) of the Broadcasting Act, the Authority is duty bound to organize a scheme of political broadcasts and fairly apportion facilities and time between the different political parties contesting an election. On this occasion the scheme covered the period 28 April to 22 May, and in consideration of the contest by two candidates of the new political group Alleanza Bidla, it decided to have two separate schemes, one dedicated to the Partit Laburista, Partit Nazzjonalista and Alternattiva Demokratika and an additional scheme featuring the smaller contesting political groups namely, Alleanza Bidla, Alleanza Liberali, Imperium Europa and the candidate for Partit tal-Ajkl.

The two schemes consisted of debates and party productions (including political spots). The debates were to be broadcast on TVM with sign language interpretation and simulcast on Radju Malta.

The first scheme included a total of 4 debates of a 60-minute duration each, which were broadcast as follows:

30 April - AD Debate

Aħna l-Ewropa – topic chosen by Alternattiva Demokratika

- Alternattiva Demokratika: Carmel Cacopardo
- Partit Nazzjonalista: Dr Therese Comodini Cachia and Dr Francis Zammit Dimech
- Partit Laburista: Prof Lino Bianco and Mario Farrugia Borg

7 May – PN Debate

Malta aħjar b'xogħol u opportunitajiet għal kulhadd – topic chosen by PN

- Partit Nazzjonalista: Roberta Metsola and Norman Vella
- Partit Laburista: Charlon Gouder and Fleur Vella
- Alternattiva Demokratika: Prof Arnold Cassola

14 May - Debate PL

Malta Energija Pożittiva – topic chosen by PL

- Partit Laburista: Joseph Cuschieri and Marlene Mizzi
- Partit Nazzjonalista: Kevin Plumptre and David Casa
- Alternattiva Demokratika: Carmel Cacopardo

21 May – Closing Debate

No subject

- Partit Laburista: Dr Joseph Muscat
- Partit Nazzjonalista: Dr Simon Busuttil
- Alternattiva Demokratika: Prof Arnold Cassola

The additional scheme consisted of two debates of a 60-minute duration each, which were broadcast as follows:

12 May 2014 - Debate Movements

Lejn l-Elezzjoni tal-Parlament Ewropew

- Alleanza Bidla: Ivan Grech Mintoff and Anthony Calleja
- Imperium Ewropa: Arlette Baldacchino and Antoine Galea
- Alleanza Liberali: Jean Pierre Sammut

19 May 2014 – Debate

No Subject

- Partit Laburista: Clint Camilleri
- Partit Nazzjonalista: Jonathan Shaw
- Alternattiva Demokratika: Carmel Cacopardo
- Imperium Ewropa: Norman Lowell
- Alleanza Bidla: Ivan Grech Mintoff
- Alleanza Liberali: Jean Pierre Sammut
- Partit tal-Ajkla: Nazzareno Bonnici

In addition, under these two schemes, airtime in the form of party productions/spots was assigned to all political parties, groups and movements. In the first scheme the Partit Laburista and Partit Nazzjonalista were allocated a total of 80 minutes of party productions (including spots) each, whereas Alternattiva Demokratika was allocated 50% of said total i.e. 40 minutes.

In the second scheme, Alleanza Bidla, Alleanza Liberali and Imperium Ewropa were afforded a total of 10 minutes for party productions each whereas Nazzareno Bonnici, the only candidate for the Partit tal-Ajkla was granted a 10-minute interview.

The scheme also introduced a novel concept, given that for the first time ever, representatives from the minor parties (including independent candidate Nazzareno Bonnici) featured in a one-hour debate together with representatives from the 'traditional' parties (PL, PN and AD). Similarly, the leaders' debate also included the Leader of the Green Party (AD) for the first time, Prof. Arnold Cassola, who participated during part of the programme.

As evidenced elsewhere in the section dealing with complaints, the Authority considered a number of complaints filed by the minor parties against stations which did not allocate airtime to them to convey their message to viewers and listeners.

Of particular relevance during this scheme was the Authority's decision to instruct Imperium Europa to cease broadcast of a political spot which dealt with immigration. Although not deemed to incite racial hatred, the Authority deemed the content to be in bad taste given that it was attributing negative aspects to irregular immigrants, which were based on speculation rather than fact. The spot, which was originally aired as part of the Authority's scheme, reignited the debate on the delicate balance between freedom of expression and regulation.

European Parliament Elections Scheme of Political Broadcasts



07

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

DESPITE BEING THE REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF THE SMALLEST MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN UNION, THE AUTHORITY MADE SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL FORA DURING THE YEAR IN REVIEW.

7.1 European Commission's European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services

Apart from its regular participation in the EPRA meetings, the Authority, through its Chairman and Chief Executive, attended the inaugural meeting of the group of regulatory authorities hailing from EU member states (ERGA) which was held in Brussels on March 4th. This group was created on the initiative of the European Commission, primarily as a result of the ongoing debate on the interpretation and implementation of the Audio-Visual Media Services Directive. In 2011, Malta had supported Cyprus and Portugal in the setting up of a similar group with an initial meeting held in Limassol. However the initiative had failed to garner the support of the majority of EU Member States, and it was only after the Commission stepped in that all EU Member States gathered in Brussels for the first meeting which was chaired by Oliver Schrameck, the Chairperson of the French CSA, who was unanimously voted as the ERGA Chair until December 2014. During this first meeting, the countries agreed on a plan of action, including the rules of procedure that would be adopted by ERGA.

ERGA's second meeting was held on October 21st and the Authority was represented through its Chief Executive. The main item on the agenda for this meeting was the identification of the topics which the group would need to work on in a bid to provide position papers to the Commission. The main topics which were identified

included protection of minors particularly in new media, territorial jurisdiction and material jurisdiction. The Authority informed the Commission that it would be actively participating in the group on the protection of minors and following the progress registered in the other two groups.

Following the monitoring report conducted by the Commission on a number of stations in Malta in which a number of infringements relating to the AVMS were highlighted, the Authority called for a meeting with DG officials to better explain the situation in Malta. The meeting took place on March 5th and the Authority was represented by its Chairman, Chief Executive, and Head of Monitoring. The Commission was represented by some of its top officials from the audio-visual sector. During the meeting the Authority gave a detailed explanation of how certain aspects of the AVMS are interpreted within a small jurisdiction like Malta. The Commission empathized with the Authority on the interpretation of certain aspects of the Directive and expressed its satisfaction that the Maltese regulator was doing its utmost to ensure compliance with the obligations of the Directive while allowing a rather fragmented industry to continue evolving.

7.2 European Platform of Regulatory Authorities

Meanwhile the two meetings organised by EPRA were held in Budva, Montenegro and Tbilisi, Georgia

respectively. On both occasions the Maltese delegation consisted of the Chairman, the Chief Executive and the Head of Monitoring. The keynote speeches during the Budva meeting held between the 4th and 6th June were the Green Paper on Convergence and Hate Speech. Meanwhile the Autumn EPRA meeting was held in the capital of Georgia between the 8th and 10th October with the main themes under discussion being: 'Beyond the AVMS – Future Models of Media Regulation' and 'Ensuring Diversity and Inclusion in the Media'.

7.3 Contact Committee of the EU Audiovisual Media Service Directive and Working Group of Audiovisual Regulatory Authorities

The 39th Contact Committee meeting of the AVMSD attended by the Head of Monitoring was held on 13th March. This meeting opened with a discussion on the creation of the EU Working Group of Regulatory Authorities in the field of Audiovisual Media Services (ERGA) which was set up earlier in March. The discussion highlighted the differences between the Contact committee of the AVMSD and the ERGA wherein the Contact Committee would focus on policy and ERGA deals with the implementation of that policy. Both the working group and the contact committee would work on the review of the AVMSD.

The topic on the Green Paper: Preparing for a Fully Converged Audiovisual World: Growth, Creations and Values was discussed again in this meeting. Another topic was the list of events of major importance. The Commission presented updates on the application of Article 13 AVMSD.

The meeting also discussed the need of additional standardization for harmonization and implementation of accessible media.

Another Contact Committee meeting was held on 7th November. The main themes were the jurisdiction held by a Member State over incoming broadcasts from another country. In this case, the issue involved Latvia and Lithuania following the suspension of a Russian audiovisual broadcast service over the Ukrainian crisis. In addition, the meeting also focused on protection of minors in a converged environment and the country of origin principle.

7.4 Mediterranean Network of Regulatory Authorities

For the first time in many years, the Authority was not present for the MNRA meeting which was held in Nouakchott, Mauritania. The Technical Commission meeting was held in May in the midst of the MEP electoral campaign while the Plenary Session which was scheduled for October was organised against the backdrop of the ebola outbreak. Given the proximity of Mauritania to Mali, which had also reported an ebola case, the Authority decided that travel to this region of Africa was too risky and informed the Presidency of the Network (Cyprus) that it would not be attending the plenary session. The Authority remains committed to promoting this Mediterranean cause as it is one of the few platforms which bring together regulatory authorities from three different continents.

7.5 Hungarian Media Council International Conference

In November the Chief Executive and the Head of Monitoring attended the international conference entitled 'Decoding Messages' which was organised by the Hungarian Media Council in Budapest. Apart from various keynote speakers, participants also had the opportunity to visit Magic Valley, an educational centre built specifically for children to enable them to obtain hands-on experience with various media such as desktop publishing, radio, television and film.

7.6 Visit by members of the Moldovan Broadcasting Council

In late September, the Authority hosted a high level delegation from the Moldovan Broadcasting Council. Two members of the Council, Mr. Iurie Colesnic and Mr. Nicolae Damaschin, visited Malta to learn more on broadcasting regulation and the specific provisions relating to the Audio-Visual Media Services Directive.

Although the Republic of Moldova is not a member of the EU, it is revisiting its broadcasting legislation to bring it in line with the AVMS Directive.

During the visit to the Broadcasting Authority, the two sides discussed ways and means of establishing a synergy between the two entities.

08

MEDIA ARCHIVES

The Authority holds a respectable number of media archives ranging from 16mm films which were hired for broadcast on the public broadcaster during the first thirty years of operations to Beta tapes from the broadcasts of Channel 12 which was run by the Authority; VHS recordings used for monitoring purposes; Audio Tapes; DAT tape recording of radio stations; and lately, DVD recordings.

The Authority does not own all of the above archived material. However, due care has to be taken for their preservation due to their importance to the operations of the Authority.

The 16mm film reels which were hired by the Authority for broadcast on the national broadcaster were housed at a new location with proper air ventilation. During the past three years, the actual film reels were hand-wound on plastic hubs while the outer tin cases were replaced by plastic cases. During this time, a stock-taking exercise of all the Beta Tapes of Channel 12 was made. This collection includes a number of series that were specifically produced for the channel which at the time was run by the Authority. It is highly probable that these series are only found within this collection, and therefore the initiative to preserve and digitise the contents becomes even more important.

During the year under review, proper wooden shelving for the Beta Tapes was ordered, and these tapes were properly transferred on seven wooden units. A

stock-taking exercise revealed a list of 195 programme series names. Work started on the digitization of such Beta Tapes as the Authority holds copyright ownership.

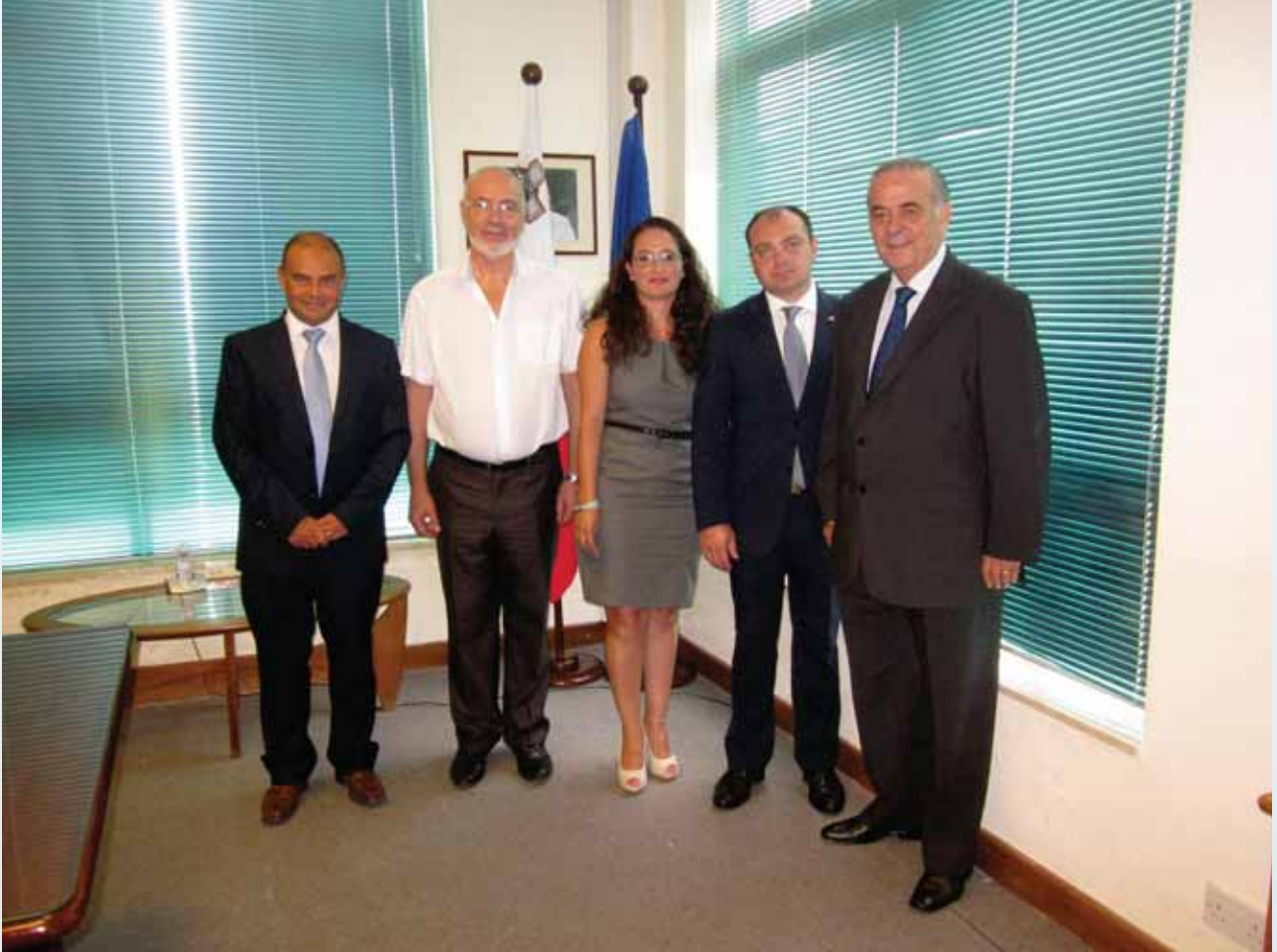
The conversion from tape to digital content requires laborious work – these tapes are already 20 years old and are past their shelf life. This conversion requires that each tape is first ‘loosened’ before the actual capturing process can be started. By the end of the year more than 400 Beta Tapes had been processed and digitised.

This is only the first part of the process to maintain the digital content. An in-house database has been developed to record the content of each tape. These recordings have also been converted to MP4 [YouTube standard] and can be easily viewed from a computer.

The digitization of media content owned by the Authority is of importance not only culturally but also historically. Such material has not only to be maintained but should also be made available for review by researchers and the general public. To attain this, various resources have to be invested – from human resources required for the actual digitization, recording, and conversion of digital material to technical expertise of past technologies used in the creation of such content.

Through the collaboration agreement signed with M3P Foundation, the Authority is seeking to introduce a professional way of securing the future of all its archives, and in so far as possible, making the contents available to different sections of the public.

In the latter part of the year in review, discussions commenced with various international institutions to explore the best ways for the Authority to become a member of the networks that primarily seek to make available digital content to the public at large.



Visit by the Moldovian Broadcasting Council Mr Anthony J Tabone, Chairman of the Broadcasting Authority [right] flanked by Mr Nicolae Damaschin, Chairman of the Moldovian Broadcasting Council; Dr Joanna Spiteri, Head of Monitoring; Mr Iurie Colensic, Council Member; and Mr Pierre Cassar, Chief Executive of the Broadcasting Authority - 16 Sep 2014

09

RADIO AND TELEVISION AUDIENCE ASSESSMENT

IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 30(2) OF THE BROADCASTING ACT, CAP. 350 OF THE LAWS OF MALTA, THE BROADCASTING AUTHORITY COMMISSIONED THE NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE [N.S.O.] TO COMPILE THE RELEVANT DATA ON AUDIENCES THROUGH TELEPHONE INTERVIEWS.

The Authority tried to be more expedient in the publications of audience assessments within the same broadcasting quarter. For this year, data was collected daily [40 interviewees] for one month during February, July, and October while assessments were published in the following month on the Authority's website.

The stratified weighted sample was based on national demographics. Respondents were only known to the N.S.O.; no personal data is revealed and no respondent can ever be identified.

For each sample, a total of 1,240 respondents accepted to participate. The response rate of each

data-set was slightly above the norm accepted for this kind of assessment [45%-50%]. The margin of error of each assessment was of $\pm 2.78\%$ for each sample. The data was first weighted to represent the required sample demographics and was then further weighted to represent population data.

Respondents were asked which were their most preferred programmes [up to a maximum of three] and which were those stations they had followed the day before for at least 10 minutes [up to a maximum of three stations] and for how long [up to a maximum of three time brackets for television, and up to a maximum of one time bracket for three radio stations].

Population, Response Rates, and Margin of Errors

Responses	Feb 2014		July 2014		Oct 2014	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Accepted	1,240	50.20%	1,240	50.80%	1,240	51.37%
Refused	66	2.67%	64	2.62%	79	3.27%
Non-Contact	360	14.57%	348	14.26%	421	17.44%
Unreachable	713	28.87%	786	32.20%	668	27.67%
Ineligible	91	3.68%	3	0.12%	6	0.25%
Contacted	2,470	100%	2,441	100%	2,414	100%
Not used	10		39		66	
Total	2,480		2,480		2,480	
Population [aged 12 years and over]	366,739		378,502		379,268	
Response Rate	50.20%		50.80%		51.37%	
Margin of Error [95% confidence]	$\pm 2.78\%$		$\pm 2.78\%$		$\pm 2.78\%$	

At the start of the broadcasting season [October 2013] the two main political stations started to broadcast their main news bulletins at 7:30pm rather than staggered as in previous broadcasting schedules.

At the end of March *Radju Parlament* was re-branded by PBS Ltd. as Radju Malta 2; while Prime TV Shopping Channel ceased transmissions on 31st July 2015. The nationwide radio station 'Solid 100.20' changed its name to 'XFM' in September. The FIFA World Cup began on Thursday 12th June and ended on Sunday 13th July.

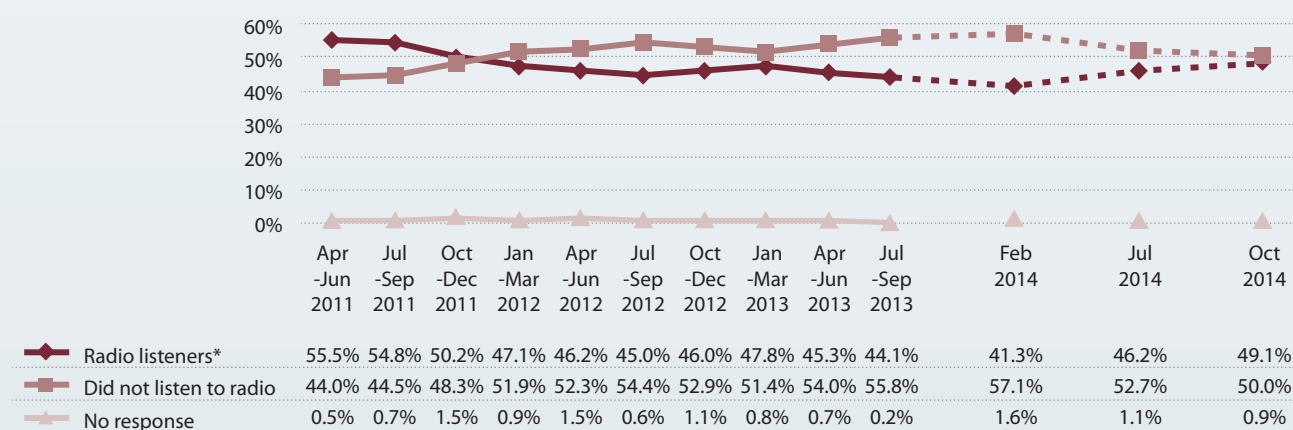
9.1 Radio Audiences

Respondents were asked which radio station they had listened to the day before the interview. The first estimation is what is termed as **radio audience reach**. This gives the number of people who had followed at

least one radio station at any time during the day without taking into consideration the amount of time which they had spent listening to that station. During October, 49.1% stated that they had listened to radio the day before the interview, 50.0% categorically stated that they had not listened to radio, while 0.9% did not reply. This means that a total of 186,000 persons, aged 12 or over, followed at least one radio station. On the other hand 31 respondents [»8,815; 2.3%] replied that they do not have a radio set.

Respondents were given the possibility of naming up to three radio stations which they had listened to the day before. Out of a total of 1,240 respondents, 52 listeners named a second station while another 5 respondents named a third radio station.

Radio Audience Reach



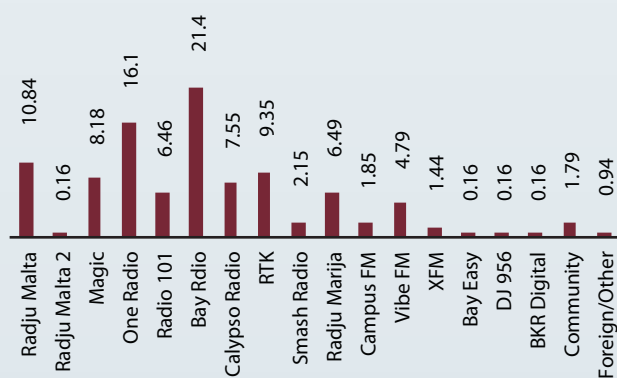
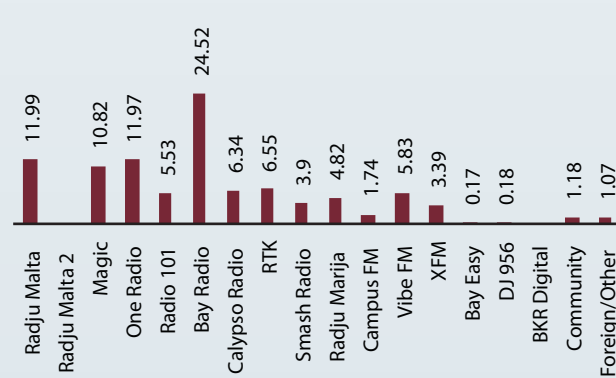
* Includes "No Particular Radio Station" and "Did not remember which station".

On average 186,000 persons (49.1%) aged 12 or over followed at least one radio station during October 2014

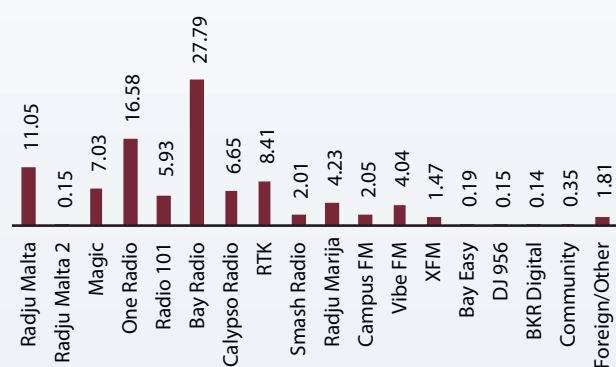
Radio Audience Reach by Station

		Feb		July			Oct	
	%			%		%		
Radju Malta	10.84	[3]	Radju Malta	11.99	[2]	Radju Malta	11.05	[3]
Radju Parlament	0.16	[15]				Radju Malta 2	0.15	[17]
Magic	8.18	[5]	Magic	10.82	[4]	Magic	7.03	[5]
One Radio	16.1	[2]	One Radio	11.97	[3]	ONE Radio	16.58	[2]
Radio 101	6.46	[8]	Radio 101	5.53	[8]	Radio 101	5.93	[7]
Bay Radio	21.4	[1]	Bay Radio	24.52	[1]	Bay Radio	27.79	[1]
Calypso Radio	7.55	[6]	Calypso Radio	6.34	[6]	Calypso Radio	6.65	[6]
RTK	9.35	[4]	RTK	6.55	[5]	RTK	8.41	[4]
Smash radio	2.15	[10]	Smash Radio	3.9	[10]	Smash Radio	2.01	[11]
Radju Marija	6.49	[7]	Radju Marija	4.82	[9]	Radju Marija	4.23	[8]
Campus FM	1.85	[11]	Campus FM	1.74	[12]	Campus FM	2.05	[10]
Vibe FM	4.79	[9]	Vibe FM	5.83	[7]	Vibe FM	4.04	[9]
Solid 100.2	1.44	[13]	Solid 100.2	3.39	[11]	X FM	1.47	[13]
Bay Easy	0.16	[15]	Bay Easy	0.17	[16]	Bay Easy	0.19	[15]
DJ 956	0.16	[15]	BKR Digital	0.18	[15]	Bay Retro	0.15	[16]
BKR Digital	0.16	[15]				Kiss	0.14	[18]
Community	1.79	[12]	Community	1.18	[13]	Community	0.35	[14]
Foreign/Other	0.94	[14]	Foreign/Other	1.07	[14]	Foreign	1.81	[12]
	100			100			100	

Based on Radio Listeners including those who could identify more than one station but excluding all those who could not identify a station and/or could not remember.

Radio Reach by Station [irrespective of time spent]:
FebruaryRadio Reach by Station [irrespective of time spent]:
July

Radio Reach by Station [irrespective of time spent]: October



Bay Radio has attracted the largest number of radio listeners with an average for the three months of 24.6% [Feb:21.4%; Jul:24.52%; Dec:27.79%]. This station was followed by *ONE Radio* with an average of 14.9% of all listeners and *Radio Malta* with 11.3%.

For October, *Bay Radio* was the most followed station by gender and amongst all those under fifty years old. *ONE Radio*, on the other hand, was the second most followed station by gender but was also the most followed station amongst all those over fifty years old. *Bay Radio* was the most followed station in all the districts being followed by *ONE Radio* in the South Harbour, North Harbour, Western and in Gozo & Comino. On the other hand, *Radju Malta* ranked second after *Bay Radio* in the South Eastern and Northern Districts.

9.1.1 Daily Average Hours of Radio Listening

This average gives the amount of time that each radio listener has spent following each radio station. This is derived from the total number of hours that radio consumers listened to divided by the total number of listeners of each broadcasting station. This average is susceptible to outliers especially where broadcasting stations have registered a small number of listeners who logged on to that particular station for long time-spans. However, considering also the demographical nature of radio listeners for each particular station, the average amount of time spent by listeners of each station gives indication of radio listening patterns amongst the population.

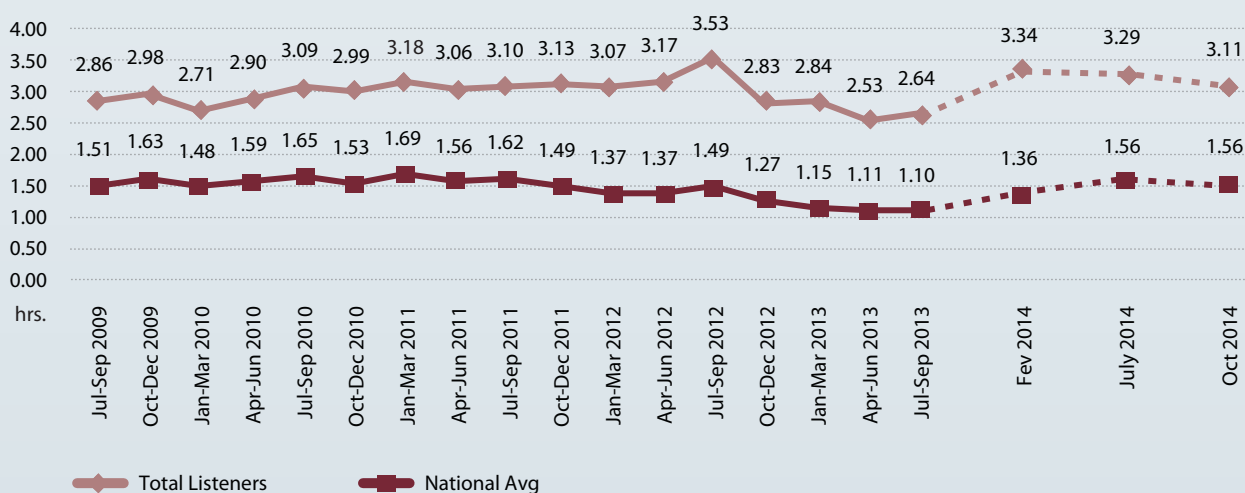
For the month of February each radio listener spent an average of 3.34hrs every day - averaged out over the whole population, the national average stood at 1.36 hrs.

For the month of July this stood at 3.29hrs every day with a national average of 1.56hrs.

For the month of December each listener spent on average a total of 3.11hrs every day listening to a radio station. Over the whole of the population aged 12 years and over, this amounted to 1.56hrs.

Although *Bay Radio* attracted the highest number of listeners [Oct: 27.79%] these listeners were all below 50 years old and their average hours of radio listening was at 1.99hrs for October. On the other hand, *ONE Radio* attracted the second highest number of listeners [Oct: 16.58%] who, on average, have spent 4.17hrs listening to this station.

Daily Average Hours of Radio Listening



Daily Average Hours of Radio Listening by Station

	Radju Malta	Radju Parliament	Magic	ONE Radio	Radio 101	Bay Radio	Calypso Radio	RTK	Smash radio	Radju Marija	Campus FM	Vibe FM	Solid 100.2	Bay Easy	DJ 956	BKR Digital	Bay Retro	Kiss	Foreign/Other	Community	Total	Nat.Avg.
Feb	3.42	1.00	2.86	4.37	3.18	2.24	4.37	2.76	5.37	4.45	2.61	2.81	3.36	1.00	4.00	10.00			5.28	2.74	3.34	1.36
July	4.00		2.69	4.08	2.76	2.69	5.50	3.55	1.86	4.38	2.76	2.59	2.62	3.00		0.50			2.39	3.30	3.29	1.56
Oct	2.79	1.50	2.46	4.17	3.06	1.99	5.50	3.76	2.79	4.21	2.53	1.85	2.52	0.50			8.00	11.00	4.53	1.96	3.11	1.56

9.1.2 Peak Radio Audiences by Station

Another indication of a radio station's popularity with its audiences is its highest amount of audiences obtained at any particular half-hour slot of each weekday.

During February the highest percentage average reached was that of *ONE Radio* on Saturdays [5.661% - 21,700]. In fact *ONE Radio* had the highest peaks amongst all stations from Wednesdays to Sundays. *Calypso Radio* had the highest peak amongst all stations on Mondays while *Bay Radio* had the highest peak amongst all stations on Tuesdays.

During July the highest percentage average reached was that of *Bay Radio* on Tuesdays [7.237% - 28,270]. In fact *Bay Radio* had the highest peaks amongst all stations on Tuesdays and from Thursdays to Sundays - for five weekdays.

Radju Malta, on the other hand, had the highest peaks for the other two week-days - Mondays and Wednesdays - where the highest peak for Mondays was also the highest amongst all stations for that day.

During October *Bay Radio* had the highest peak of all audiences by station and by weekday with 7.261% [29,590] on Wednesdays. This was followed by that attained by *ONE Radio* on Mondays with 6.704% [»26,655] and that of *Bay Radio* with 5.794% [»22,986] on Thursdays. While *ONE Radio* attained the highest peaks amongst all stations on Mondays, Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays, *Bay Radio* attained the highest peaks on the rest of the weekdays [Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays].

Radio Highese Peaks

%	Radju Malta	Radju Parliament	Magic	One Radio	Radio 101	Bay Radio	Calypso Radio	RTK	Smash Radio	Radju Marija	Campus FM	Vibe FM	Solid 100.2	Bay Easy	Bay Retro	DJ 956	Kiss	BKR Digital	Foreign/Other	Community
Feb	4.505	0.521	2.8	5.661	1.687	3.681	3.825	2.685	1.604	2.587	0.926	2.551	1.112	0.409		0.396		0.522	0.947	0.927
Jul	5.55		3.242	4.838	1.975	7.237	5.091	2.942	2.417	2.155	1.104	2.734	1.713	0.623				0.612	1.124	1.189
Dec	3.571	0.576	2.606	6.704	3.236	7.261	4.051	3.45	1.494	1.942	1.685	1.248	1.607	0.701	0.597		0.405		1.304	0.591

Pop	Radju Malta	Radju Parliament	Magic	One Radio	Radio 101	Bay Radio	Calypso Radio	RTK	Smash Radio	Radju Marija	Campus FM	Vibe FM	Solid 100.2	Bay Easy	Bay Retro	DJ 956	Kiss	BKR Digital	Foreign/Other	Community
Feb	16,974	2,029	10,608	21,700	6,560	14,024	14,555	10,293	6,247	10,075	3,523	9,935	4,236	1,560		1,510		2,033	3,681	3,526
Jul	21,677		12,917	18,895	7,797	28,270	19,888	11,719	9,433	8,409	4,307	10,807	6,560	2,384				2,439	4,385	4,641
Dec	13,945	2,248	10,360	26,655	12,887	29,580	16,132	13,716	5,941	7,722	6,579	4,963	6,389	2,748	2,330		1,614		5,311	2,346

9.1.3 Radio Audience Shares

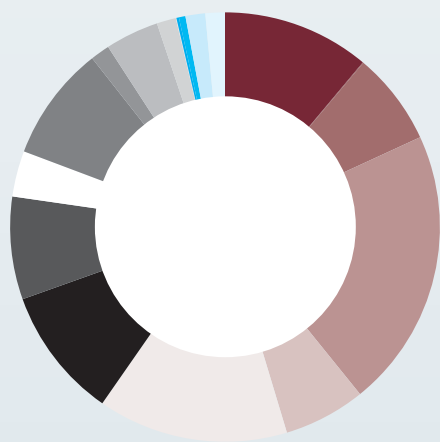
Taking all the radio listeners for all the weekdays, multiplied by the amount of time spent listening to their radio sets, the daily average radio audience share attained by each broadcasting station could be calculated.

For February, *ONE Radio* ranked first with 21.06% of all audiences, followed by *Bay Radio* [14.33%]; *Radju Malta* [11.08%]; *Calypso Radio* [9.87%]; *RTK* [7.73%]; *Magic* [6.99%]; and *Radio 101* [6.16%].

In July *Bay Radio* ranked first with 20.01% of all audiences, followed by *ONE Radio* [14.84%]; *Radju Malta* [14.56%]; *Calypso Radio* [10.58%]; *Magic* [8.84%]; *RTK* [7.06%]; *Radju Marija* [6.41%]; and *Radio 101* [4.65%].

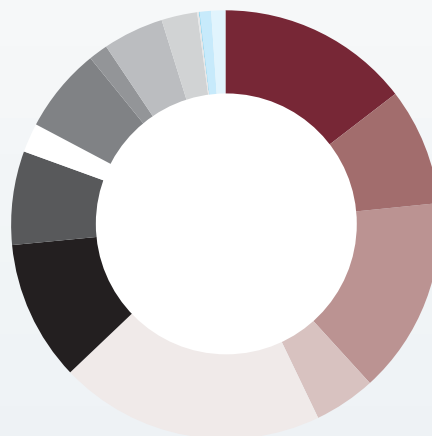
In October, *ONE Radio* ranked first with 22.25% of all audiences, followed by *Bay Radio* [17.83%]; *Calypso Radio* [11.77%]; *RTK* [10.17%]; *Radju Malta* [9.94%]; *Radio 101* [5.84%]; *Radju Marija* [5.72%]; and *Magic Radio* [5.57%].

Radio Audience Share by Station: February



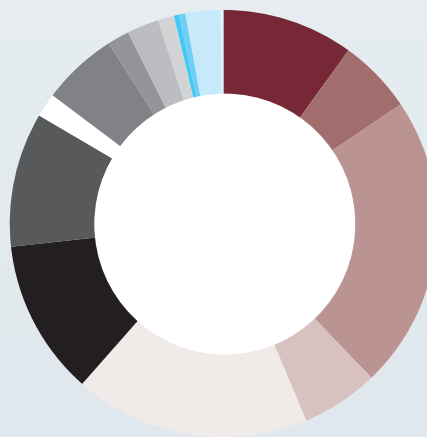
Radju Malta, 11.08%	Campus FM, 1.5%
Radju Parlament	Vibe FM, 4.03%
Magic, 6.99%	Solid 100.2, 1.4%
ONE Radio, 21.06%	Bay Easy
Radio 101, 6.16%	DJ 956
Bay Radio, 14.33%	BKR Digital
Calypso Radio, 9.87%	Bay Retro
RTK, 7.73%	Kiss
Smash radio, 3.45%	Foreign/Other
Radju Marija, 8.66%	Communtty

Radio Audience Share by Station: July



Radju Malta, 14.56%	Campus FM, 1.5%
Radju Parlament	Vibe FM, 4.6%
Magic, 8.84%	Solid 100.2, 2.7%
ONE Radio, 14.84%	Bay Easy
Radio 101, 4.65%	DJ 956
Bay Radio, 20.01%	BKR Digital
Calypso Radio, 10.58%	Bay Retro
RTK, 7.06%	Kiss
Smash radio, 2.2%	Foreign/Other
Radju Marija, 6.41%	Communtty

Radio Audience Share by Station: October



Radju Malta, 9.94%	Campus FM, 1.7%
Radju Parlament	Vibe FM, 2.4%
Magic, 5.57%	Solid 100.2, 1.2%
ONE Radio, 22.25%	Bay Easy
Radio 101, 5.84%	DJ 956
Bay Radio, 17.83%	BKR Digital
Calypso Radio, 11.77%	Bay Retro
RTK, 10.17%	Kiss
Smash radio, 1.81%	Foreign/Other
Radju Marija, 6.41%	Communtty

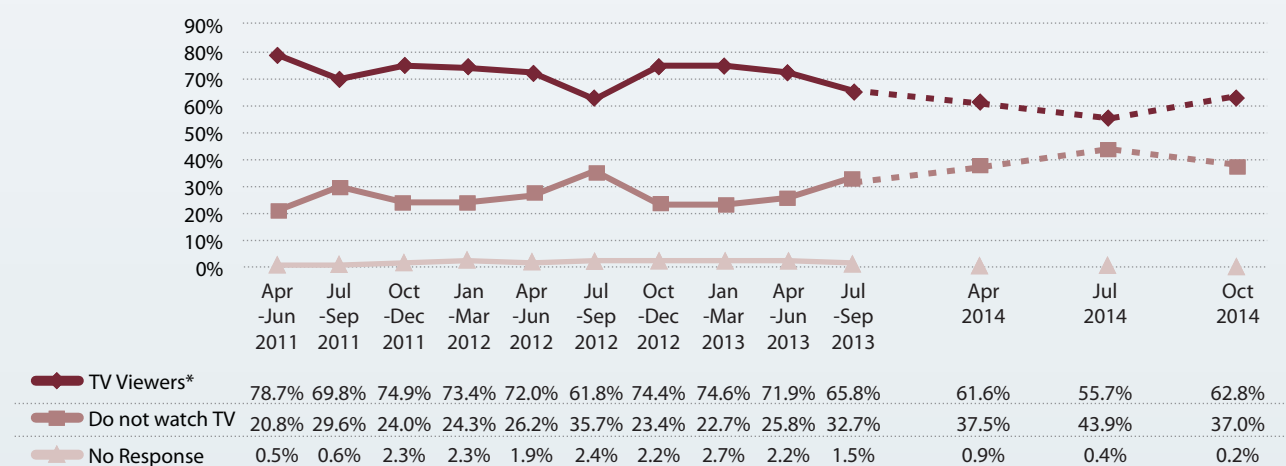
9.2 Television Audiences

Similar to radio assessment, the first estimation is the number of people who had followed at least one TV station at any time during the day without taking into consideration the amount of time which they had spent following that particular station. During October, 62.8% stated that they had watched television the day before the interview, 37.0% categorically stated that they had not watched any TV station, while 0.2% did not reply. This means that a total of 238,300 persons, aged 12 or

over, followed at least one TV station. On the other hand 5 respondents [»1,944; 0.5%] replied that they do not have a TV set.

Respondents were given the possibility of naming up to three TV stations which they had watched the day before the interview. Out of a total of 1,240 respondents, 271 viewers named a second station while another 86 respondents named a third TV station. All these responses were analysed by broadcasting station and by demographics.

TV Audience Reach

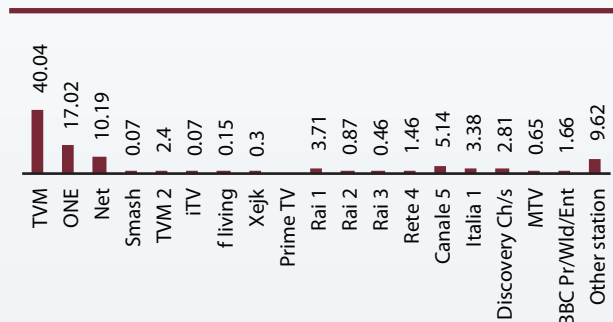


TV Audience Reach by Station

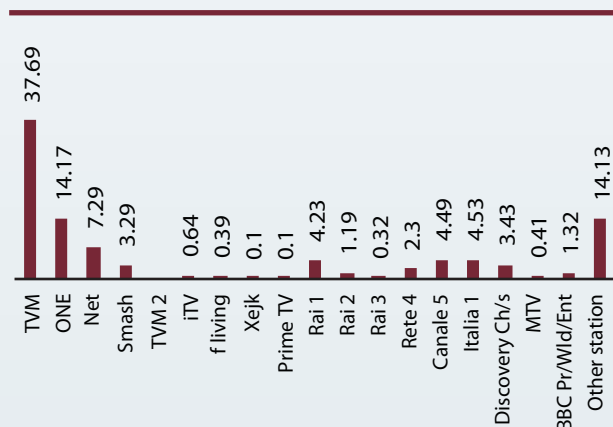
	Feb %		Jul %		Oct %
TVM	40.04 [1]	TVM	37.69 [1]	TVM	37.49 [1]
ONE	17.02 [2]	ONE	14.17 [2]	ONE	17.29 [2]
Net	10.19 [3]	Net	7.29 [4]	Net	9.28 [4]
Smash	0.07 [17]	TVM 2	3.29 [9]	Smash	0.3 [16]
TVM 2	2.4 [9]			TVM 2	1.82 [9]
iTV	0.07 [17]	iTV	0.64 [13]	iTV	0.41 [13]
f living	0.15 [16]	F Living	0.39 [15]	f Living	0.39 [14]
Xejk	0.3 [15]	Xejk	0.1 [17]	Xejk	0.16 [17]
Prime TV		Prime TV	0.1 [18]	Prime TV	
Rai 1	3.71 [6]	Rai 1	4.23 [7]	Rai 1	4.25 [7]
Rai 2	0.87 [12]	Rai 2	1.19 [12]	Rai 2	0.78 [11]
Rai 3	0.46 [14]	Rai 3	0.32 [16]	Rai 3	0.57 [12]
Rete 4	1.46 [11]	Rete 4	2.3 [10]	Rete 4	1.82 [10]
Canale 5	5.14 [5]	Canale 5	4.49 [6]	Canale 5	4.36 [5]
Italia 1	3.38 [7]	Italia 1	4.53 [5]	Italia 1	4.33 [6]
Discovery Ch/s	2.81 [8]	Discovery Ch./s	3.43 [8]	Discovery Ch.	3.05 [8]
MTV	0.65 [13]	MTV	0.41 [14]	MTV	0.31 [15]
BBC Pr/Wld/Ent	1.66 [10]	BBC Pr/Wld/Ent	1.32 [11]		
Stazzjon iehor	9.62 [4]	Other Station	14.13 [3]	Other Station	13.4 [3]
Total	100	Total	100	Total	100

Based on TV Viewers including those who could identify more than one station but excluding all those who could not identify a station and/or could not remember.

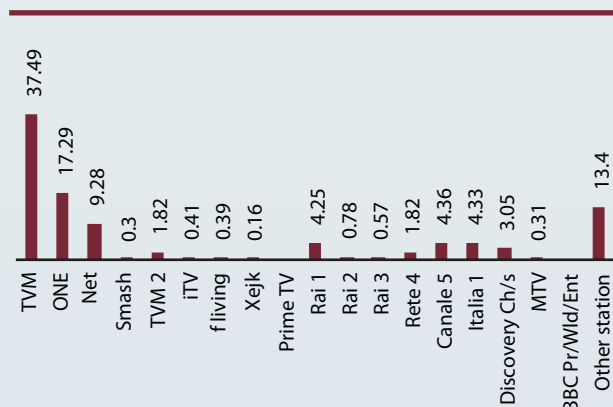
TV Reach by Station (irrespective of time spent): February



TV Reach by Station (irrespective of time spent): July



TV Reach by Station (irrespective of time spent): October



TVM has attracted the largest number of television viewers with an average of the three months of 38.4% [Feb: 40.04%; Jul: 37.69%; Oct: 37.49%]. This station was followed by *ONE* with an average of 16.2% of all viewers and *Net TV* with 16.2%.

For October, *TVM* has attracted the largest amount of TV-viewers [37.49%] with approximately 122,000 viewers. This station was followed by *ONE* with 17.29% [»56,328] and *Net TV* with 9.28% [»30,239] - excluding those following an "other station" which amounted to 13.40% [»43,649] of all TV-viewers. Overall, while 67.14% of the viewers favoured local stations, only just more than a third of the population watched a foreign station - with *Canale 5* [4.36%; »14,209], *Italia 1* [4.33%; »14,092] and *Rai 1* [4.25%; »13,846] being the most followed stations. By demographics, the same trend in ranking follows; however it is evident that the viewing of local stations is higher with those over the age of 30 years old than with those below 30 years.

9.2.1 Daily Average Hours of TV viewing

This average gives the amount of time that each viewer has spent following each TV station. This is derived from the total number of hours that consumers watched television divided by the total number of listeners of each broadcasting station.

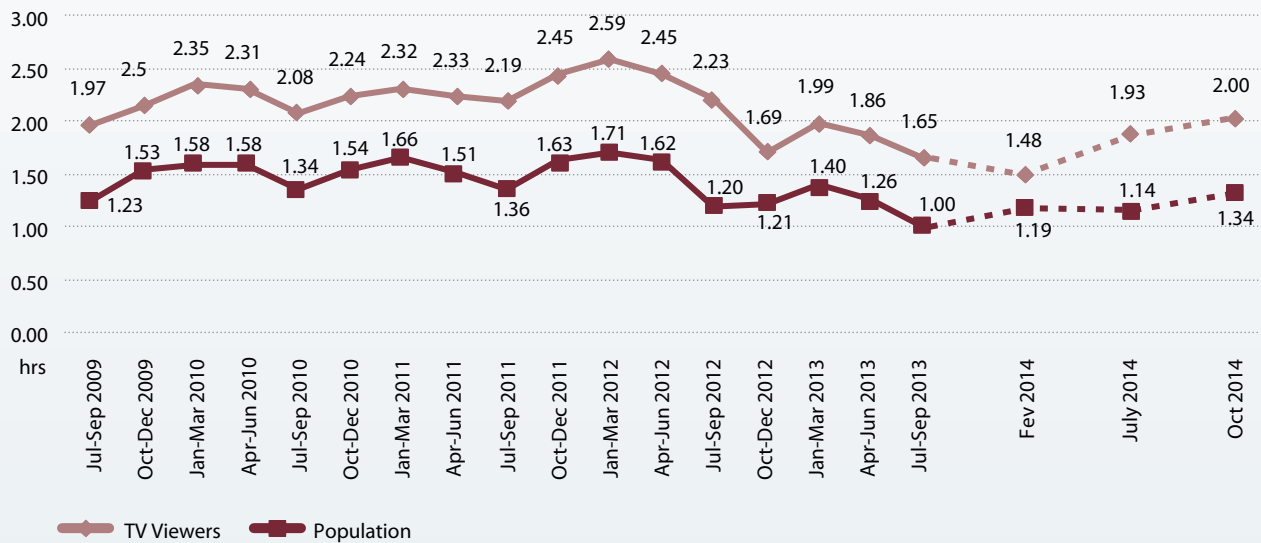
On average, for the month of February viewers watched a total of 1.48 hours every day while on a national average this amounts to 1.19 hours every day.

For the month of July, TV viewers watched an average total of 1.38 hours every day while on a national average this amounts to 1.14 hours every day.

For the month of October, the average amount of hours viewers spent watching their TV-sets amounted to 2.00hrs per viewer and over the whole of the population aged 12 years and over, this amounts to 1.34hrs.

Although *TVM* attracted the highest average number of viewers with 1.727% [»8,385], while *ONE* attracted the next highest daily average of 1.125% [»5,459] the time spent on average by *ONE* viewers [2.01hrs] is about 23.3% higher than those of *TVM* [1.63hrs]. Similarly those viewers of *Net TV*, whose overall average viewers amount to 0.660%, have spent a total of 2.26hrs each.

Daily Hours of TV Consumption



Daily Average Hours of TV Viewing by Station

	TVM	ONE	Net	Smash	TVM 2	iTV	f living	Xejk	Rai 1	Rai 2	Rai 3	Rete 4	Canale 5	Italia 1	Discovery Channel/s	MTV	BBC Prime/Wld/Ent	Other Station	Total	National Average
Feb	1.57	1.68	1.81	0.50	1.76	2.00	0.75	2.29	2.14	2.29	2.64	2.35	2.61	1.89	1.51	1.99	1.97	2.23	1.48	1.19
Jul	1.68	1.64	2.29	2.44	1.74	1.27	1.00	4.00	2.65	2.21	2.53	2.32	2.50	2.19	2.14	1.44	1.57	2.04	1.93	1.14
Oct	1.63	2.01	2.26	1.65	1.83	4.20	1.98	2.46	1.76	1.38	3.47	2.38	2.29	2.14	2.11	1.25		2.67	2.00	1.34

9.2.2 Peak TV Audiences by Station

Another indication of a station's popularity with its audiences is its highest amount of audiences obtained at any particular half-hour slot of each weekday.

During February TVM attained the highest peaks amongst all stations for all the days of the week. TVM's highest peak was that on Fridays with 23.782% of its viewers. ONE attained its highest peak on Wednesdays with 10.028%, while Net TV attained its highest on Tuesdays with 6.851%.

Again during July, TVM attained the highest peaks amongst all stations for all the days of the week. TVM's highest peak was that on Mondays with 15.371% of its viewers. ONE, on the other hand, had two highest peaks on Mondays and Wednesdays [6.701%] while Net TV attained its highest on Thursdays with 3.189%.

During October TVM had the highest peaks amongst all stations for all the weekdays from Monday to Saturday while ONE had the highest peak amongst all stations on Sundays. The highest peaks attained by TVM were in this ranking order: Tuesdays [24.406%] - Thursdays [19.645%] - Wednesdays [18.995%] - Fridays [17.112%] - Mondays [14.753%] and Saturdays [11.982%]. Net TV attained its highest peak on Fridays.

TV Highest Peaks

%	TVM	ONE	Net	Smash	TVM 2	iTV	f Living	Xejk	Prime TV	Rai 1	Rai 2	Rai 3	Rete 4	Canale 5	Italia 1	Discovery Channel/s	MTV	BBC Prime/Wld/Ent	Other Station
Feb	23.782	10.028	6.851	0.379	1.955	0.384	0.292	0.716		3.489	1.401	0.822	1.434	3.169	2.339	1.701	0.546	1.362	4.317
Jul	15.450	6.701	3.189		2.582	0.643	0.440	0.364	0.440	2.081	0.869	0.459	1.293	1.434	2.557	1.850	0.651	0.828	4.505
Oct	24.406	13.364	5.878	0.495	3.239	0.736	0.395	0.387		2.946	1.109	0.520	0.931	2.313	4.798	2.692	0.599		7.393

N	TVM	ONE	Net	Smash	TVM 2	iTV	f Living	Xejk	Prime TV	Rai 1	Rai 2	Rai 3	Rete 4	Canale 5	Italia 1	Discovery Channel/s	MTV	BBC Prime/Wld/Ent	Other Station
Feb	107,854	45,761	31,034	1,719	8,610	1,696	1,378	3,159		15,394	6,604	3,684	6,815	15,064	10,301	7,712	2,597	6,104	20,522
Jul	76,569	31,341	14,479		11,476	2,859	2,032	1,717	2,032	9,615	4,101	2,187	6,122	7,142	11,631	9,216	3,245	3,905	20,020
Oct	118,993	68,469	29,585	2,415	15,253	3,590	1,788	1,938		14,365	5,581	2,606	4,772	10,472	22,592	13,124	2,970		36,045

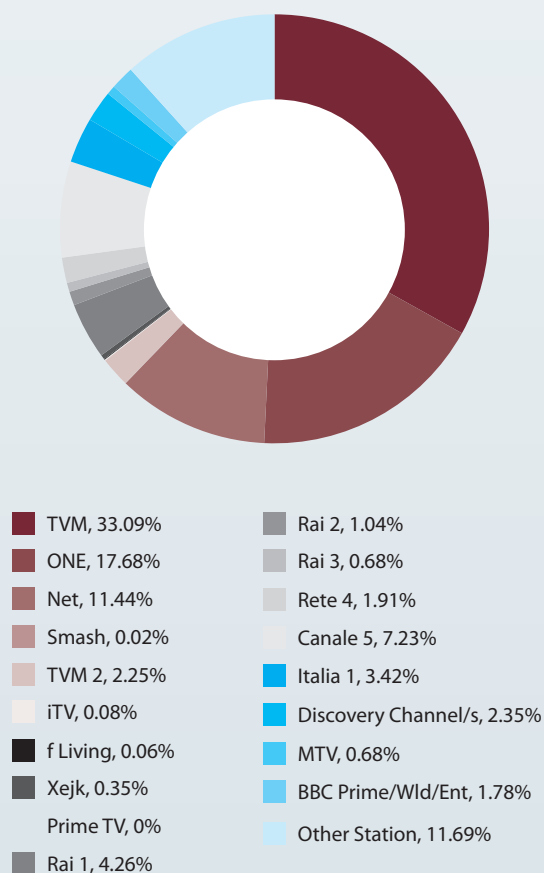
9.2.3 TV Audience Shares

The daily average TV audience share attained by each broadcasting station is calculated by taking all the viewers for all the weekdays multiplied by the amount of time each spent watching their favourite programme.

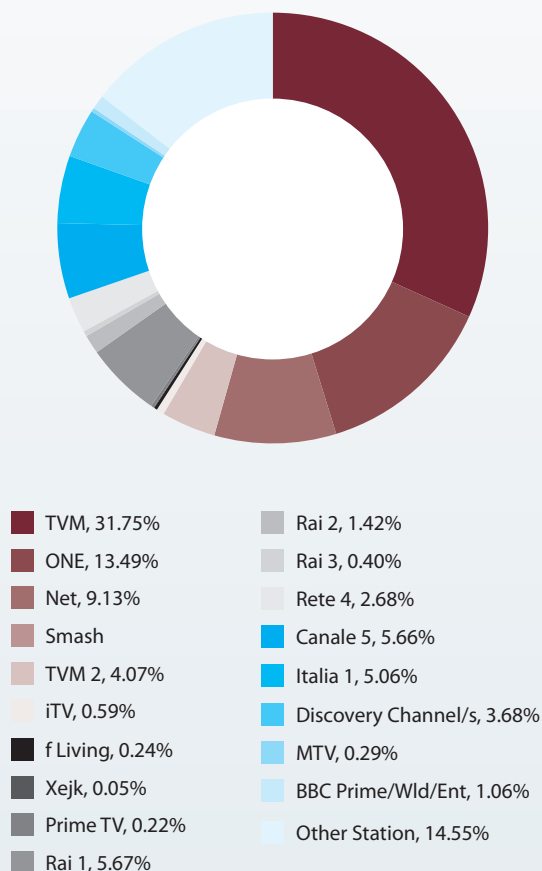
In all instances TVM attained the highest percentage audience share [Feb: 33.09%; Jul: 31.75%; Oct: 29.45%]; followed by ONE [Feb: 17.68%; Jul: 13.49%; Oct: 19.11%] and Net TV [Feb: 11.44%; Jul: 9.13%; Oct: 11.2%].

Of the foreign stations and in all instances Canale 5 attained the next highest share [Feb: 7.23%; Jul: 5.66%; Oct: 4.84%].

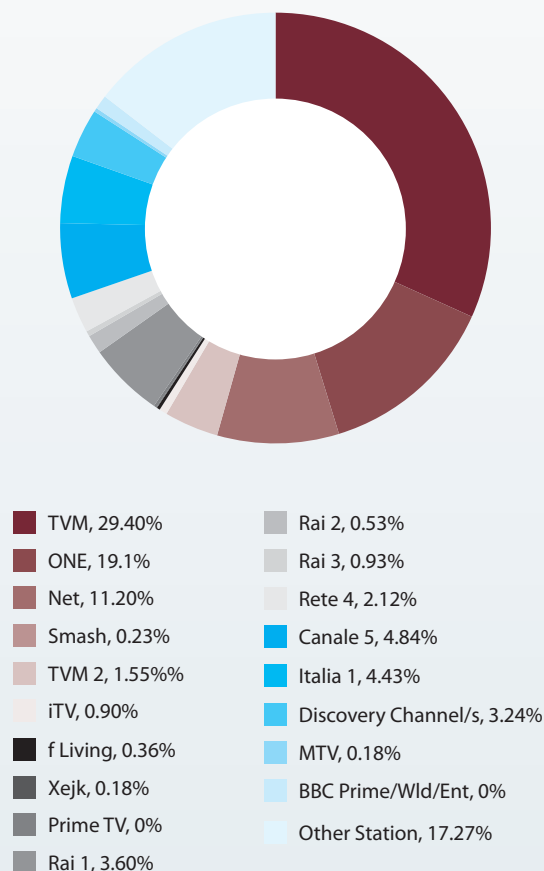
TV Audience Share by Station: February



TV Audience Share by Station: July



TV Audience Share by Station: October



9.2.4 TV Programme Preferences

Respondents were asked to list "their most favourite program" broadcast on local TV stations while allowing also for two other types of responses: respondents could state that they do not regularly watch television; and/or they could also state that they do not watch local television programmes.

The programmes named were classified according to their declared order by each respondent [i.e. the first, second and third named programme]; by their generic time-brackets; and by the broadcasting station on which it was broadcast. The programmes named were also compared to the broadcasting schedules as provided by each broadcasting station for each assessment period. Naturally, some of the programmes named were broadcast during previous broadcasting schedules - these were checked for repeated series on the same or other broadcasting station. Some other programmes named were either of a generic nature, or broadcast on radio or on the digital/cable network; or could not be properly identified. Named programmes that were re-runs were classified separately and not according to the time that they were re-broadcast.

Out of all the programmes named, TVM always got the highest percentage number of programmes named with its highest being that for October with 72.1%

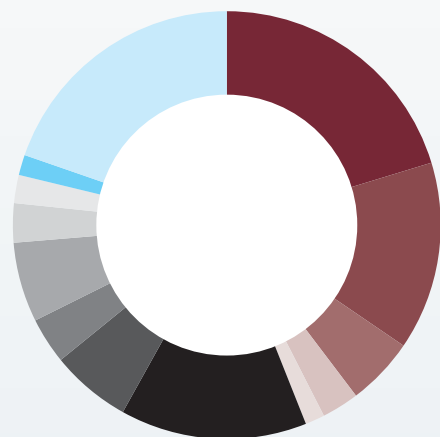
	Feb %	Jul %	Oct %
TVM	70.21	67.34	72.10
ONE	18.89	19.25	14.57
Net TV	5.85	10.76	9.81
Generic	1.41	0.78	0.21

In February, the first ten most quoted programmes amounted to 75.07% of all the programmes named. The most quoted was *Ic-Caqqufa* on TVM [TVM; 23.20%] followed by *Katrina* [TVM, 15.39%] and *TVM News* [TVM; 9.02%]. Drama programmes were the most favoured with 48.2% of all preferences followed by News [14.72%], Discussion programmes [8.52%] and Entertainment programmes [3.66%].

In July the total preference of these first twelve programmes amounted to 75.07% of all the programmes named. The most quoted was *lċ-Caqqufa* on TVM [TVM; 20.29%] followed by *Katrina* [TVM, 14.24%] and *TVM News* [TVM; 14.1%]. Drama programmes were the most favoured with 43.97% of all preferences followed by News [23.67%], Discussion programmes [6.04] and Entertainment programmes [5.09%].

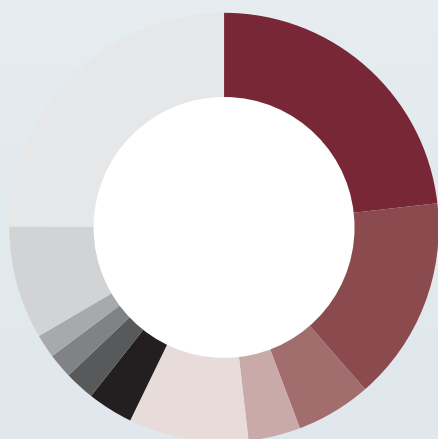
In December the top ten programmes most quoted constituted 70.7% of all preferences. The most quoted was *lċ-Caqqufa* on TVM [TVM; 23.27%] followed by *Katrina* [TVM, 16.41%] and *TVM News* [TVM; 11.26%]. Drama programmes were the most favoured with 49.68% of all preferences, followed by News [19.26%], Discussion programmes [5.54%] and Entertainment programmes [2.22%].

July 2014



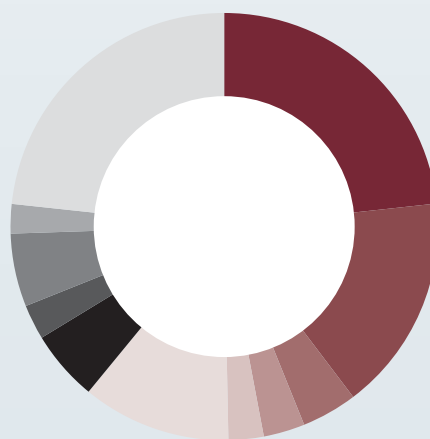
lċ-Ċaqqufa, 20.29%	News Net TV, 3.5%
Katrina, 14.24%	Xarabank, 6.04%
It-Tfal, 5.15%	Liquorish, 6.04%
Simpatiči, 2.82%	Hadd Għalik, 0.02%
Klikka, 1.46%	World Cup Games, 0.02%
News TVM, 14.10%	Other programmes, 0.20%
News ONE, 6.07%	

February 2014



lċ-Ċaqqufa, 23.20%	News Net TV, 2.27%
Katrina, 15.39%	Hadd Għalik, 1.88%
Il-Klikka, 5.65%	Rajt ma Rajtx, 1.78%
It-Tfal, 3.93%	Xarabank, 8.52%
News TVM, 9.02%	Other programmes
News ONE, 3.43%	

October 2014



lċ-Ċaqqufa, 23.27%	News ONE, 5.35%
Katrina, 16.41%	News Net TV, 2.65%
Hbieb u Għedewwa, 4.21%	Xarabank, 5.54%
Becky, 3.13%	Rajt ma Rajtx, 2.22%
It-Tfal, 2.66%	Other programmes, 23%
News TVM, 11.26%	

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

Consultation Document on the Correct Use of the Maltese Language

Dokument ta' Konsultazzjoni

Aġġornament tar-Regolamenti tal-2010
għall-Kodiċi dwar l-Użu Tajjeb tal-Ilsien Malti fil-Mezzi
tax-Xandir

Ħtiġiet u Dmirijiet dwar Standards u Prattika fl-Użu tal-Ilsien Malti fil-Mezzi tax-Xandir (ABBOZZ)

Minn żmien għal żmien issir ħafna kritika dwar l-użu
ħażin tal-ilsien Malti fuq il-mezzi tax-xandir, kemm għat-
televiżjoni kif ukoll għar-radju. L-Awtorità tax-Xandir hija
konxja li għandha d-dmir li tiegħu l-miżuri kollha li hemm
bżonn biex, b'mod raġonevoli u effettiv, tqajjem aktar
kuxjenza u għarfien fost l-istazzjonijiet tax-xandir u d-djar
tal-produzzjoni tal-programmi dwar il-ħtieġa u d-dmir li
l-ilsien Malti jithaddem sew.

L-użu tal-Malti fix-xandir huwa mħares mil-Leġiżlazzjoni
Sussidjarja taħt l-Att dwar ix-Xandir. Dan l-Avviż Legali
kien għe emendat fl-2010 imma fil-verità f'it li xejn għe
infurzat. Matul dawn l-aħħar snin, l-Awtorità u l-Kunsill
Nazżjonali tal-Ilsien Malti nnutaw li dan il-fatt ma għenx
biex is-sitwazzjoni titjeb, b'mod speċjali fil-programmi
edukattivi, informattivi (aħbarijiet, ġrajjet kurrenti, tisjir,
moda u sport) u tat-tfal.

L-idea li stazzjon jimpjega konsulent li jaċċerta li l-Malti
jintuża tajjeb mill-istazzjon innifsu ma ħadmitx. Mhuwiex
possibbli li persuna waħda tkun responsabbli mill-
kontenut kollu li jixxandar fuq stazzjon, li ħafna minnu jiġi
minn djar tal-produzzjoni differenti.

Għalhekk, il-ħsieb tal-Awtorità huwa li jkun hemm proċess
ta' konsultazzjoni li jwassal għal emendi fl-Avviż Legali
180 tal-2010 (Regolamenti tal-2010 għall-Kodiċi dwar
l-Użu Tajjeb tal-Ilsien Malti fil-Mezzi tax-Xandir) sabiex
il-provvedimenti tiegħu jkunu jistgħu jiġu infurzati kif
jixraq halli verament isir sforz ġenwin minn kull min hu

konċernat biex l-użu tal-Malti fil-mezzi tax-xandir jitjeb.

Waħda mill-ikbar problemi li l-Awtorità tħabbat wiċċha
magħha meta tiġi biex tinforza dawn ir-regolamenti hu
l-fatt li l-multa marbuta mal-Kodiċi hija waħda fissa ta'
€2,330. L-Awtorità dejjem saħqet li multa daqshekk għolja
m'għandhiex tiġi imposta kif għe u laħaq. Madankollu, ir-
rieda tajba tal-Awtorità u ta' daww l-istazzjonijiet li, b'mod
regolari, jiġbdu l-attenzjoni tax-xandara tagħhom biex
jużaw il-Malti tajjeb, ma kinitx biżżejjed.

Għalhekk, waħda mill-bidliet prinċipali li qed tippromponi
l-Awtorità f'dan l-Avviż Legali hi li ma jibqax jissejjaħ
"Kodiċi" u għalhekk ma jibqax iġorr miegħu dil-multa fissa
ta' €2,330. Minflok, l-Avviż Legali jkollu t-titlu ta': "Ħtiġiet
u Dmirijiet dwar Standards u Prattika fl-Użu tal-Ilsien
Malti fil-Mezzi tax-Xandir" u l-multa marbuta ma' xi ksur ta'
dispożizzjoni tiegħu tkun ta' €350. F'każ li stazzjon jinstab
ħati ta' ksur ripetut tal-provvedimenti tal-Avviż Legali, il-
multa imposta tiżdied b'20%, b'limitu massimu ta' €2,330.
Dan jeħtieġ bidla fil-Ħames Skeda tal-Att dwar ix-Xandir li
telenka l-multi amministrattivi li l-Awtorità tista' timponi
f'każ li stazzjon jinstab ħati ta' ksur tal-provvedimenti tal-
liġi.

L-Awtorità tax-Xandir, flimkien mal-Kunsill Nazżjonali
tal-Ilsien Malti, jappellaw lill-istazzjonijiet tat-televiżjoni u
r-radju biex jifhmu r-responsabbiltà tagħhom u jwettquha
halli s-sitwazzjoni preżenti titjeb, billi jużaw dejjem Malti
tajjeb:

- Fl-ortografija, inkluż fl-użu tat-tipi (*fonts*) tal-Malti
fil-grafika tal-programmi tagħhom, speċjalment
fit-titli tal-aġġornamenti u l-bullettini tal-aħbarijiet.
Dan għalissa ma jgħoddx għall-messaġġi (SMSs),
mibgħuta mit-telesepettaturi, li jixxandru f'xi
programmi;
- Fir-reklamar u l-programmi tat-telebejgħ, kemm fil-
mihaddet kif ukoll fil-miktub, speċjalment fejn jidhru
n-numri (etajiet, qisien, prezzijiet, numri ta' kuntatt) u
ismijiet ta' lwien u lokalitajiet;
- Fil-pronunzja, inkluż fil-programmi tar-radju, biex

tkun korretta u ċara, b'sentenzi mibnija tajjeb u mingħajr taħlit tal-Malti ma' lingwi oħra bla bżonn.

L-istazzjonijiet tat-televiżjoni u r-radju għandhom ukoll:

- a. isegwu d-direttivi elenkati fl-Iskedi tal-Avviż Legali;
- b. jikkoperaw u jagħmlu sforz ġenwin biex fil-programmi tagħhom ma jintużax kliem barrani b'kapriċċ, fejn m'hemmx bżonn, (pereżempju, għax għandna l-ekwivalenti tiegħu bil-Malti), b'mod speċjali fil-programmi edukattivi, informattivi u tat-tfal;
- c. jaraw li l-materjal ipprovdut lilhom mid-djar tal-produzzjoni, inkluż il-grafika lesta, ikollu Malti tajjeb.

B'Malti tajjeb nifhmu Malti standard, kurrenti u modern, b'kitba konformi mar-regoli uffiċjali attwali tal-ortografija u b'lessiku adattat għall-kuntest tad-diskors, bi pronunzja korretta u ċara, b'binja korretta tas-sentenza, mingħajr taħlit bla bżonn tal-Malti ma' lingwi oħra, u b'idjoma xierqa.

Mehmuż ma' din iċ-ċirkulari għandkom issibu abbozz tal-Avviż Legali kif propost mill-Awtorità tax-Xandir. Dan ġie diskuss fid-dettall mal-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti.

L-istazzjonijiet tax-xandir bit-televiżjoni u r-radju (inkluż l-istazzjonijiet tar-radju tal-komunità), id-djar tal-produzzjoni, l-aġenziji tar-reklamar u kull min għandu interess fis-suġġett għandhom jibagħtu r-reazzjonijiet tagħhom bil-miktub sa mhux aktar tard mill-Erbgħa, l-1 t'Ottubru 2014 fuq "info.ba@ba.org.mt" jew inkella bil-posta: L-Awtorità tax-Xandir, 7 Triq Mile End, Il-Ħamrun HMR1719.

Pierre Cassar

Kap Eżekuttiv

25 t'Awwissu 2014

Tibdil fil-Legizlazzjoni Sussidjarja 350.10

Avviż Legali (*abbozz*)

Htiġiet u Dmirijiet dwar Standards u Prattika fl-Użu tal-Ilsien Malti fil-Mezzi tax-Xandir

1. It-titlu ta' dawn ir-regolamenti hu: "Htiġiet u Dmirijiet dwar Standards u Prattika fl-Użu tal-Ilsien Malti fil-Mezzi tax-Xandir", u r-regolamenti jorbtu lill-istazzjonijiet tat-televiżjoni u r-radju.
2. Stazzjon tax-Xandir (televiżjoni u radju) li jxandar programmi bil-Malti għandu jifhem irresponsabbiltà tiegħu li jħares lilsien Malti u jippromwovi lużu tajjeb tiegħu fil-programmi, b'mod speċjali fil-programmi edukattivi, informattivi (aħbarijiet, ġrajjet kurrenti, tisjir, moda u sport) u tattfal.
3. B'Malti tajjeb nifhmu użu ta' Malti standard, kurrenti u modern, b'kitba konformi mar-regoli uffiċjali attwali tal-ortografija u b'lessiku adattat għall-kuntest tad-diskors, bi pronunzja korretta u ċara, b'binja korretta tas-sentenza, mingħajr taħlit bla bżonn tal-Malti ma' lingwi oħra, u b'idjoma xierqa.
4. Għaldaqstant, stazzjon li jxandar programmi bil-Malti għandu llobblig jara li lilsien Malti jintuża kif jixraq, u dan billi:
 - i. ikollu mekkanizmu intern li bih jimpjega miegħu xandara u preżentaturi b'livell tajjeb ta' Malti, anke fejn tidhol ilpronunzja (televiżjoni u radju), u jiżgura li l-mistiedna fil-programmi kollha

tiegħu, u b'mod speċjali l-mistiedna residenti, jużaw Malti tajjeb;

- ii. fejn ikun meħtieġ, ifittex iservizz ta' persuna/i li jkunu jafu jhaddmu sew il-Malti fit-taħdit u l-kitba, u li jkunu approvati mill-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti. Ilfunzjoni tagħhom tista' tiegħu diversi forom, fosthom li:
 - a. jiġu kkonsultati minnufih u bilquddiem f'każ ta' diffikultà flużu tallingwa (kitba u taħdit);
 - b. regolarment isegwu kampjun mill-programmi talistazzjon u jiġbdu lattenzjoni għal titjib fejn ikun meħtieġ;
 - c. iżommu ruħhom aġġornati billi jattendu s-seminars u l-korsijiet tal-Malti organizzati minn żmien għal żmien mill-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti, id f'id mal-Awtorità tax-Xandir;
- iii. jiżgura li fejn tidhol xi kitba (grafika) bil-Malti, din:
 - d. tinkiteb dejjem bittipi (fonts) tal-Malti, jiġifieri biċ-Ċċ, Ġġ, Hh, Żż, u mhux b'xi ittri oħra minflokhom;
 - e. tkun kitba korretta u aġġornata mar-regoli uffiċjali tal-ortografija Maltija. Dan jgħodd għal kull kitba bil-Malti li tidher fuq l-iskrin, inklużi ż-żigarella tal-aħbarijiet (*crawls*) u r-reklami.

Dan lobbliku għalissa ma japplikax għallSMSs li jintbagħtu mittelespettaturi f'ċerti programmi. F'dan il-każ, qabel jibdwew jidhru l-messaġġi fuq l-iskrin, il-preżentatur għandu javża li: "Il-messaġġi qed jidhru miktuba kif jintbagħtu, b'Malti li mhux neċessarjament korrett."

- iv. jiżgura li l-materjal ipprovdut lilu mid-djar tal-produzzjoni jkollu Malti tajjeb, kemm mithaddet kif ukoll miktub. Dan jgħodd ukoll għall-programmi tar-radju u t-telebejgħ, speċjalment fejn jidhru n-numri (etajiet, qisien, prezzijiet, numri ta' kuntatt) u ismijiet ta' lwien u lokalitajiet;
- v. jikkopera u jagħmel sforz ġenwin biex fil-programmi tiegħu ma jintużax kliem barrani b'kapriċċ fejn m'hemmx bżonnu (pereżempju, għax għandna l-ekwivalenti tiegħu bil-Malti), b'mod speċjali fil-programmi edukattivi, informattivi u tat-tfal;
- vi. jimpenja ruħu li juża ismijiet kreattivi bil-Malti għall-programmi tal-iskedi tiegħu;
- vii. isegwi ċ-ċirkularijiet u d-direttivi dwar l-użu tal-lingwa Maltija fix-xandir li joħorġu minn żmien għal żmien mill-Awtorità tax-Xandir, b'kollaborazzjoni mal-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti, u li qegħdin fl-iskedi ta' dan l-Avviż Legali. Dawn il-provedimenti huma intiżi biex jistandardizzaw kliem u espressjonijiet, kif ukoll grafika komuni, u b'hekk iħaffu x-xogħol taxxandara u l-persuni tekniċi li jtellgħu l-grafika fuq l-iskrin.
- viii. L-Istazzjonijiet tax-Xandir b'Ogġettiv ta' Interess Ġenerali għandhom l-obbligu jxandru talanqas programm/i jew taqsima/iet minn programm/i (li jammontaw għal mhux inqas minn 30 minuta filgimgha) f'kull skeda ta' tliet xhur blgħan speċifiku li jippromwovu lilsien Malti. Dan lobbliku jeskludi listazzjonijiet tarradju nazzjonali li jxandru biss programmi ta' mużika u l-istazzjonijiet tarradju talkomunità.

6. Huma meqjusin programmi li jippromwovu l-Malti dawk il-programmi li jittrattaw direttament xi aspetti tallingwa u li jgħinu attivament lissemmiegha/telespettaturi japprezzawha u jużawha aħjar. Għalhekk, programmi dwar ilwirt kulturali Malti, folklor, u programmi letterarji bħallqari ta' rumanz, filwaqt li jgħinu filpreżenza tal-Malti fixxandir, ma jitqisux bħala programmi ta' promozzjoni għallilsien Malti.
7. L-Istazzjonijiet tax-Xandir b'Ogġettiv ta' Interess Ġenerali għandhom lobbliku jipprovdut verżjoni bil-Malti ta' dak li, għal raġunijiet tassew neċessarji, jinstema' jew jidher b'lingwa oħra, kemm waqt programmi ta' aħbarijiet jew ġrajiet kurrenti bil-Malti, kif ukoll fi programmi lokali b'mistednin li ma jittkellmex bil-Malti.
 - Ilverżjoni Maltija tista' tiegħu ssura ta':
 - a. traduzzjoni (jew taqsira bil-Malti) ta' kulma jintqal li, fil-każ tat-televiżjoni, tidher miktuba f'parti taliskrin (sottotitli) waqt iddiskors;
 - a. traduzzjoni (jew taqsira bil-Malti) ta' kulma jkun intqal, li ssir millintervistatur jew preżentatur ta' programm, eżatt wara l'intervent blilsien barrani;
 - a. traduzzjoni f'għamla ta' voice over bil-Malti li tiegħu post iddiskors blilsien barrani, ngħidu aħna fisservizzi talaħbarijiet u fi programmi rrekordjati.

B'dan il-mod, l-udjenza Maltija tkun tista' ssegwi kif jixraq l-argumenti kollha ta' programm lokali, billingwa Maltija.

L-ISKEDI**Skeda A** (Televiżjoni u Radju)

Lista bl-ismijiet tal-lokalitajiet maħruġa mill-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti

Skeda B (Televiżjoni)

Lista ta' termini użati fi tmiem il-programmi

Nota: Minn żmien għal żmien jibqgħu jinħarġu skedi oħra kif meħtieġ, mill-Awtorità tax-Xandir u l-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ilsien Malti.

Skeda A**L-ismijiet tal-bliet u l-irhula Maltin**

Il-Belt Valletta	Marsaskala ¹
L-Imdina	Marsaxlokk
Il-Birgu	Il-Mellieħa
L-Isla	L-Imġarr
Bormla	Il-Mosta
Hal Qormi	L-Imqabba
Haż-Żebbuġ	L-Imsida
Haż-Żabbar	Il-Munxar
Is-Siġġiewi	In-Nadur
Iż-Żejtun	In-Naxxar
Ir-Rabat, Għawdex	Raħal Ġdid
H'Attard	Pembroke
Hal Balzan	Tal-Pietà
Birkirkara	Il-Qala
Birżebbuġa ²	Il-Qrendi
Had-Dingli	Ir-Rabat
Il-Fgura	Hal Safi
Il-Furjana	San Ġiljan
Il-Fontana ³	San Ġwann
Il-Gudja	San Lawrenz
Il-Gżira	San Pawl il-Baħar
Għajnsielem	Ta' Sannat
L-Għarb	Santa Luċija
Hal Għargħur	Santa Venera
L-Għasri	Tas-Sliema
Hal Għaxaq	Is-Swieqi
Il-Hamrun	Ta' Xbiex
L-Iklin	Hal Tarxien
Il-Kalkara	Ix-Xagħra
Ta' Kerċem	Ix-Xewkija
Hal Kirkop	Ix-Xgħajra
Hal Lija	Iż-Żebbuġ
Hal Luqa	Iż-Żurrieq
Il-Marsa	L-Imtarfa

L-ismijiet tal-komunitajiet Maltin

Fleur-de-Lys	Ix-Xlendi
Santa Luċija, Għawdex	Tal-Virtù
Gwardamanga ⁴	Hal Farruġ
Paceville	St Peter
Il-Kappara	Is-Swatar
Il-Madliena	Burmarrad
Marsalforn	Il-Baħrija
Bubaqra	Baħar iċ-Ċagħaq

Skeda A - L-ismijiet tal-lokalitajiet Maltin

Fit-taħdit u l-kitba bil-Malti l-ismijiet tal-lokalitajiet tagħna għandhom jintużaw dejjem sħaħ. Dawk l-ismijiet li għandhom Hal, Ta' jew **I-artiklu** fihom, għandna ngħiduhom u niktubhom bihom (eż. Hal Kirkop, Hal Għaxaq, **Ta'** Xbiex, **Tas**-Sliema, **Il**-Hamrun, **Ix**-Xewkija) għax dawn huma parti integrali mill-isem. Imma qabel, ta' min jinnota dawn:

1. Kif tikteb Hal

- Meta l-isem jiehū Hal (it-taqisira ta' raħal'), jinkiteb dejjem bla sing. (eż. Hal Balzan, Hal Qormi, Hal Safi, Hal Tarxien)
- Meta l-(l) ta' Hal issir bħall-ittra ta' warajha, jinkiteb bis-sing. (eż. Had-Dingli, Haż-Żabbar, Haż-Żebbuġ)
- Niktbu H'Attard, Hal Lija, Hal Luqa

2. Kif tikteb l-artiklu

Niktbu:

- il**-Birgu, **il**-Furjana, **il**-Gżira, **il**-Mellieħa, **il**-Qala
- in**-Nadur, **ir**-Rabat, **is**-Swieqi, **ix**-Xagħra, **iż**-Żejtun
- l**-Imġarr (mhux l-~~imġarr~~), **l**-Imsida (mhux l-~~imsida~~), **l**-Imtarfa (mhux l-~~imtarfa~~), **l**-Iklin, **l**-Isla

3. Meta tibda l-isem b'ittra kbira jew b'ittra żgħira

- Il-Hal** u **t-Ta'** fl-ismijiet jinkitbu dejjem b'ittra kbira, anke meta l-isem jidher f'nofs sentenza (eż. Telaq minn **Ta' Qali**, għadda minn **Hal Lija** u baqa' jaqdef sa **Tas-Sliema**.)
- L-artiklu** jinkiteb dejjem b'ittra kbira meta l-isem jidher waħdu f'tabella jew f'mappa. Jinkiteb b'ittra żgħira meta jidher f'nofs sentenza u meta jintegra mal-isem. Eż. Iċ-ċerimonja se ssir l-Università, Tal-Qroqq, **l-Imsida**. Haż-Żebbuġ u **ż**-Żebbuġ *mhux l-istess post!* F'Għawdex *m'hemmx irhula bil-* Hal. Il-maratona se tghaddi **mis-Swieqi**, Tal-Ibraġ u **n-Naxxar**.

¹ Mhux ~~Marsaskala~~ kif konna naraw miktub. Hawn inheggu li jibqa' jintuza wkoll l-isem sabiħ, bi storja twila: 'Wied il-Għajn'.

² Mhux ~~Birzebbuġia~~, kif konna naraw miktub.

³ Inheggu li jintuza wkoll l-isem sabiħ u haj fost l-Għawdxin: 'It-Triq tal-Għajn'.

⁴ Mhux ~~Gwardamangia~~ kif konna naraw miktub.

4. It-taqsisra tal-ismijiet

a) It-taqsisriet mhux rakkomandat li jintużaw, la f'kitba twila u lanqas fi grafika b'tabelli. Madankollu, f'każ li jkun hemm verament bżonnhom minħabba nuqqas ta' spazju, tajjeb li jinżamm l-istandard u jitniżżlu kif ġej:

Birkirkara	B'Kara
Birżebbuġa	B'Buġa
Għajnsielem	Għ'Sielem
Gwardamanga	G'Mangja
Marsalforn	M'Forn
Marsaxlokk	M'Xlokk
Marsaskala	M'Skala

b) Il-lokalitajiet b'isem ta' qaddis/a titqassrilhom l-ewwel biċċa tat-titlu b'dan il-mod:

San titqassar **S.** (eż. **S. Ġwann**)

Santa titqassar **Sta** (eż. **Sta Luċija**¹)

It-taqsisra ta' **Santa** (Sta) ma tiħux tikka warajha għax it-tnaqqis qed isir minn ġewwa. It-tikka nagħmluha biss wara t-taqsisra ta' **San** (S.) għax it-tnaqqis qiegħed f'tarf il-kelma.

Din hi l-lista tal-aktar lokalitajiet komuni, b'isem ta' qaddis/a:

San Ġiljan	S. Ġiljan
San Ġwann	S. Ġwann
San Lawrenz	S. Lawrenz
San Pawl il-Baħar	S. Pawl il-Baħar
Santa Luċija	Sta Luċija
Santa Venera	Sta Venera

NOTA: M'għandhomx jintużaw it-taqsisriet l-antiki **M'Scala**, **Sta Lucia**, **G'Mangja** u **B'Buġia**.

Skeda B: Titli televiżivi għal tmien il-programmi

	INGLIŻ [EN]	MALTI [MT]
1	<i>Advertising Sales team</i>	Reklami
2	<i>All rights reserved Copyright</i>	Kull dritt riservat Id-drittijiet riservati
3	<i>Assistant director/s</i>	Assistenza tad-direzzjoni
4	<i>Assistant technician/s</i>	Assistenza teknika
5	<i>Audio Audio crew / persons</i>	Awdjo
6	<i>Avid editor</i>	Editur tal-Avid
7	<i>Camera Camera crew Cameraman / Cameramen Cameraperson/s Camera operator/s</i>	Kamera/s
8	<i>CCU</i>	CCU
9	<i>CG</i>	Grafika Elettronika
10	<i>Coordinator Team manager</i>	Koordinazzjoni
11	<i>Director / Directed by -Artistic director -Technical director</i>	Direzzjoni -Direzzjoni artistika -Direzzjoni teknika
12	<i>Editing</i>	Muntaġġ
13	<i>Engineers (Audio / VTR)</i>	Inġiniera -Inġiniera tal-awdjio -Inġiniera tal-vidjow
14	<i>Filming</i>	Filmat/i
15	<i>Floor manager</i>	Floor manager
16	<i>FX</i>	Effetti Tekniċi
17	<i>Graphics</i>	Grafika
18	<i>Guest Guests Special guest/s Resident guest/s</i>	Mistieden JEW Mistiedna Mistiednin Mistieden JEW Mistiedna speċjali Mistieden JEW Mistiedna residenti
19	<i>Lighting</i>	Dwal
20	<i>Main sponsor Main sponsors</i>	Sponser ewlieni Sponsors ewlenin
21	<i>Make up Make up artist/s</i>	Irtokk

¹ Mhux **Santa Lucia** kif konna naraw miktub.

22	<i>Music</i> <i>Opening music</i> <i>Background music</i> <i>Closing music</i> <i>Musical arrangements</i>	Mużika Mużika tal-ftuħ Mużika fl-isfond Mużika tal-għeluq Arrangamenti mużikali
23	<i>Photographer</i> <i>Photography</i>	Fotografija
24	<i>Presentation Officer</i>	Uffiċjal tat-trażmissjoni
25	<i>Presenter/s</i> <i>Presented by</i>	Preżentazzjoni
26	<i>Producer/s</i> <i>Produced by</i>	Produzzjoni - Produzzjoni eżekuttiva - Produzzjoni teknika
27	<i>Production assistance</i> <i>Production assistant/s</i>	Assistenza tal-produzzjoni
28	<i>Readings</i>	Qari
29	<i>Research</i>	Riċerka
30	<i>Rigger/s</i>	Armar
31	<i>Script/s</i>	Kitba
32	<i>Senior Technical Officer</i>	Uffiċjal Tekniku Eżekuttiv
33	<i>Set</i> <i>Set design</i> <i>Set construction</i> <i>Set dressing</i> <i>Scenography</i> <i>Scenes</i>	Sett Disinn tas-sett Bini tas-sett Armar tas-sett Xenografija Xeni
34	<i>Special effects</i>	Effetti Speċjali
35	<i>Sponsors</i> <i>-Clothes</i> <i>-Shoes</i> <i>-Nails</i> <i>-Hair</i> <i>-Costumes</i> <i>-Curtains</i> <i>-Sofas</i> <i>-Carpets</i>	Sponsors -Ilbies -Żraben -Kura tad-dwiefer -Kura tax-xagħar -Kostumi -Purtieri -Sufanijiet -Twapet
36	<i>Taking part</i>	Jieħdu/Hadu sehem
37	<i>Talent</i> <i>-Actors</i> <i>-Singers</i> <i>-Band</i> <i>-Musicians</i> <i>-Orchestra</i> <i>-Vocals</i> <i>-Models</i> <i>-Dancers</i> <i>-Choreography</i>	Talent -Atturi -Kantanti -Grupp mużikali -Mużiċisti -Orkestra -Vuċijiet -Mudelli -Żeffiena -Koreografija
38	<i>Technician/s</i>	<i>Teknika</i>

39	<i>Thanks to</i> <i>Special thanks</i>	Ħajr Ħajr speċjali (għall-isponsers ewlenin)
40	<i>Videotape operator</i>	<i>Operatur tal-vidjow</i>
41	<i>Website</i>	<i>Sit elettroniku</i>

Din hija l-istess lista (MT-EN):

	MALTI [MT]	INGLIŻ [EN]
1	<i>Armar</i>	<i>Rigger/s</i>
2	<i>Assistenza tad-direzzjoni</i>	<i>Assistant director/s</i>
3	<i>Assistenza tal-produzzjoni</i>	<i>Production assistance</i> <i>Production assistant/s</i>
4	<i>Assistenza teknika</i>	<i>Assistant technician/s</i>
5	<i>Awdjo</i>	<i>Audio</i> <i>Audio crew / persons</i>
6	<i>CCU</i>	<i>CCU</i>
7	<i>Direzzjoni</i> <i>-Direzzjoni artistika</i> <i>-Direzzjoni teknika</i>	<i>Director / Directed by</i> <i>-Artistic director</i> <i>-Technical director</i>
8	<i>Dwal</i>	<i>Lighting</i>
9	<i>Editur tal-Avid</i>	<i>Avid editor</i>
10	<i>Effetti Speċjali</i>	<i>Special effects</i>
11	<i>Effetti Tekniċi</i>	<i>FX</i>
12	<i>Filmat/i</i>	<i>Filming</i>
13	<i>Floor manager</i>	<i>Floor manager</i>
14	<i>Fotografija</i>	<i>Photographer</i> <i>Photography</i>
15	<i>Grafika</i>	<i>Graphics</i>
16	<i>Grafika Elettronika</i>	<i>CG</i>
17	<i>Ħajr</i> <i>Ħajr speċjali</i>	<i>Thanks to</i> <i>Special thanks</i>
18	<i>Inġiniera</i> <i>-Inġiniera tal-awdjo</i> <i>-Inġiniera tal-vidjow</i>	<i>Engineers</i> <i>(Audio / VTR)</i>
19	<i>Irtokk</i>	<i>Make up</i> <i>Make up artist/s</i>
20	<i>Jieħdu/Hadu sehem</i>	<i>Taking part</i>
21	<i>Kamera/s</i>	<i>Camera</i> <i>Camera crew</i> <i>Cameraman /</i> <i>Cameramen</i> <i>Cameraperson/s</i> <i>Camera operator/s</i>
22	<i>Kitba</i>	<i>Script/s</i>
23	<i>Koordinazzjoni</i>	<i>Coordinator</i> <i>Team manager</i>

24	Kull dritt riservat Id-drittijiet riservati	All rights reserved Copyright
25	Mistieden JEW Mistiedna Mistednin Mistieden JEW Mistiedna speċjali Mistieden JEW Mistiedna residenti	Guest Guests Special guest/s Resident guest/s
26	Muntaġġ	Editing
27	Mużika -Mużika tal-ftuħ -Mużika fl-isfond -Mużika tal-għeluq -Arranġamenti mużikali	Music -Opening music -Background music -Closing music -Musical arrangements
28	Operatur tal-vidjow	Videotape operator
29	Preżentazzjoni	Presenter/s Presented by
30	Produzzjoni -Produzzjoni eżekuttiva -Produzzjoni teknika	Producer/s Produced by
31	Qari	Readings
32	Reklami	Advertising Sales team
33	Riċerka	Research
34	Sett -Disinn tas-sett -Bini tas-sett -Armar tas-sett -Xenografija -Xeni	Set -Set design -Set construction -Set dressing -Scenography -Scenes

35	Sit elettroniku	Website
36	Sponser ewlieni Sponsors ewlenin	Main sponsor Main sponsors
37	Sponsors -Ilbies -Żraben -Kura tad-dwiefer -Kura tax-xagħar -Kostumi -Purtieri -Sufanijiet -Twapet	Sponsors -Clothes -Shoes -Nails -Hair -Costumes -Curtains -Sofas -Carpets
38	Talent -Atturi -Kantanti -Grupp mużikali -Mużiċisti -Orkestra -Vuċijiet -Mudelli -Żeffiena -Koreografija	Talent -Actors -Singers -Band -Musicians -Orchestra -Vocals -Models -Dancers -Choreography
39	Teknika	Technician/s
40	Uffiċjal tat-trażmissjoni	Presentation Officer
41	Uffiċjal Tekniku Eżekuttiv	Senior Technical Officer

APPENDIX 2

Consultation Document on the Code for the Protection of Minors in Broadcasting

The protection of minors in broadcasting is considered as one of the most important themes across Europe. Broadcasters are expected not to broadcast programmes which may seriously impair the physical, mental and moral development of minors.

Under the Broadcasting Act, the Legal Notice dealing with the protection of minors was enacted in September 2000. Following the transposition of the Audio-Visual Media Services Directive (AVMS) in 2010, some minor amendments were introduced, but essentially the legislative framework focused entirely on advertising.

The need has long been felt for new provisions to be introduced to address a wide spectrum of programming and ensure that minors are protected from any harmful content which they may access from time to time.

With new technology constantly impacting the broadcasting industry, the proposed changes to the existing legal notice ensure that the Broadcasting Act will address a spectrum of themes relating to minors, including personal, social and psychological development as well as provisions to promote a healthy lifestyle. One amendment being put forward for consideration is the lowering of the age limit from 18 to 16 to define a minor under the Broadcasting Act.

The Broadcasting Authority is publishing a consultation document on the proposed legislative changes to the Legal Notice on the protection of minors. Given that the amended version encompasses various changes, the new title of this subsidiary legislation will be: "Code for the Protection, Welfare and Development of Minors on the Broadcasting Media".

Broadcasting stations, independent production houses, and any interested parties are to submit feedback on this document by not later than Wednesday 15th October 2014. Submissions can be sent via e-mail to: info.ba@ba.org.mt. Alternatively feedback can be sent to:

The Chief Executive
Broadcasting Authority
7, Mile End Road
Hamrun HMR 1719

Pierre Cassar
Chief Executive
5th September 2014

Code for the Protection, Welfare and Development Of Minors on the Broadcasting Media

The proposed legislation is divided into these sections:

- Meaning and Explanation
- Rating
- Protection
- Advertising and Competitions
- Personal Development
- Social Development: Building a Healthy Society Through Positive Values
- Social Development: Violence
- Social Development: Diversity and Stereotypes.

Part 1 – Definitions and interpretation

- 1.1 The title of this Code is 'Code for the Protection, Welfare and Development of Minors on the Broadcasting Media'.
- 1.2 Terms and expressions used in this Code have the same meaning as in the Broadcasting Act.
- 1.3 Terns
Minors are persons who are under sixteen years of age. The term Parent refers to parents, whether natural or not, or guardians or tutors as the case may be, who are responsible for the physical custody, care and control of the child.

Part 2 – Rating

- 2.1 Rating
 - i. U in a green circle for universal programmes.
 - ii. PG in a yellow circle for programmes which require an accompanying parent.
 - iii. 12A in a blue circle for programmes suitable for children aged 12 and over. If any children who are less than 12 years old attend, they must view the programme with a parent.
 - iv. 15 in a brown circle. The programme is suitable for adolescents aged 15 and over.
 - v. 18 in a red circle. These programmes are suitable for adults (as they might show violent scenes, bad words, swearing, explicit sexual scenes or scenes of great despair).
 - vi. No pornographic material may be shown (see Criminal Code).
- 2.2 The rating should appear during the whole transmission of that programme:
 - i. The rating must also appear on the EPG.
 - ii. As for radio programmes, the broadcaster must display a notice of programme rating before the start of the programme and after each interval.

- 2.3 Suitable time for adult targeted programmes
Programmes designed for adults may only be aired only after 9 p.m. Nine o'clock in the evening shall be the fixed time until when broadcasters feel obliged and responsible to ensure that no material which is inappropriate for children is shown.
- 2.4 Partial rating
 - i. Stations must give prior notice when any particular slot in a programme, which can usually be viewed by the whole family, is not suitable for children.
 - ii. The rating symbol must remain visible throughout the time when material suitable for a more mature audience is being broadcast.
- 2.5 Children might attend in the audience as long as:
 - i. the programme rating is suitable for them.
 - ii. they are accompanied by a parent for a PG rated programme.
 - iii. the programme does not deal with adult themes, including topics relating to physical, psychological or emotional distress.

Part 3 – Protection

- 3.1 Stations must have officers in charge of programme rating.
- 3.2 Programme Promotion
The content of programme promotions should not include gratuitous violence and any other material suitable for a mature audience. These programme promotions may be broadcast during the day as long as a specific episode is rated.
- 3.3 Without prejudice to article 16K(g), all content broadcast by the station should not include any material which is likely to impair the physical, mental, or moral development of minors.
- 3.4 Permission: The station shall ensure that it would have obtained the necessary permission from parents or guardians in the event of shooting any footage for news, vox pops, interviews or for use in any other programme in which children will feature.
- 3.5 Any situation where minors are viewed or heard warrants all due caution with respect to safety. Children should not be shown in situations compromising their health and safety and, in particular, minors should not be viewed:
 - i. climbing high, crawling up dangerous places or going inside dangerous areas, or playing in an irresponsible manner in water or beside it;
 - ii. using any medicine, disinfectant, antiseptic

and poisonous substances or which can be reached or be used by minors without the close supervision of an adult person;

- iii. using matches, or any gas, petrol, kerosene, or any appliance which operates mechanically or electrically without supervision;
- iv. playing with weapon shaped toys or toys resembling arms.

3.6 Children who are not eligible to make use of social media owing to any criteria, including their age, should not be shown doing so or be encouraged to do so. Presenters are bound to inform listeners or viewers about any conditions to use social media.

3.7 The illegal use of drugs, drug abuse, smoking, solvents and the misuse of alcohol:

- i. may not appear in programmes which are mainly addressed to children or in other programmes which can be viewed by children unless there is a strong editorial motivation;
- ii. should generally be avoided and not be promoted, encouraged or shown in order to add to a programme's attractiveness if this is aired before 9 p.m. and unless there is a strong editorial motivation.

3.8 Particular caution and discretion are necessary when the context requires minors to be viewed either naked or scantily dressed.

3.9 Sexual material
No material which primarily exists for sexual arousal or stimulation may be broadcast in programmes aimed at children or before 9 p.m.

3.10 Reporting of sexual and other offences

- i. When legal restrictions apply to prevent the identification of any persons, broadcasters should pay particular attention to withhold any information which could identify minors who are or may be victims, witnesses, defendants or authors in case of a sexual offence in the civil, family or criminal courts by:
- ii. reporting limited information which can be linked to other pieces of information from elsewhere such as, for example, newspaper reports;
- iii. inadvertently describing the offence as being incest or in any other indirect manner.

3.11 Participation of minors in political programmes

- i. Children should not be featured in close-ups or

interviewed so as to be recognised, whenever a film is being shot for an activity involving party politics.

- ii. Minors should neither appear nor participate in programmes involving party politics.
- iii. Minors cannot appear in advertisements involving party politics.

3.12 No offensive language may be aired between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. unless there is editorial motivation for it and it is justified in the context.

No offensive language may be aired in programmes produced for children.

3.13 Paranormal Items

- i. Any broadcasting about exorcism, occult practices and paranormal issues may not be aired between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m.
- ii. Paranormal practices intended for viewers' and radio listeners' entertainment will also be broadcast after 9 p.m. (This rule does not apply to programmes involving drama, films or comedies).

Part 4 – Advertising and Competitions

4.1 The airing of children's programmes may be interrupted for advertising only if the programme is at least thirty minutes long and it may be interrupted, in such case, not more than once every thirty minutes.

4.2 No audiovisual commercial communication and advertising as are referred to below shall be aired less than thirty minutes before the programme, during the programme itself and until thirty minutes after a children's programme:

- i. alcoholic beverages;
- ii. medicines;
- iii. vitamins or products used by persons on diet;
- iv. slimming products, care and establishments;
- v. programme promotions rated for adults only;
- vi. lotteries or games similar to gambling;
- vii. soft-drinks, cordials, fruit juice, whether natural or concentrated, water with added vitamins, mineral water with different flavours, energy and sports drinks and drinks with a caffeine content;
- viii. food and drink containing a high content of trans fats, salt or sugar, sweet syrups, white rice, products made from white flour, GMOs, dyes, chemicals or artificial preservatives.

Teleshopping should not be broadcast before and after children's programmes.

- 4.3 Advertising and/or teleshopping for sweets and light foods should not suggest that such products can substitute a balanced meal.
- 4.4 Advertising and/or teleshopping should not take advantage of the minor's immaturity or natural credulity. Since children differ in their ability to distinguish between reality and fantasy according to their age and individual capabilities, advertising addressed to minors should not exaggerate or mislead about any features, including the size, qualities or capabilities of a product or service.
- 4.5 Advertising and/or teleshopping must not take advantage of children's sense of loyalty or suggest that, were minors not to buy or encourage other persons to buy any product or service, they would be failing in any of their duties or would be disloyal.
- 4.6 Advertising and/or teleshopping should not lead any child to believe that unless they have or use an advertised product they would in some way be inferior to other minors or subject to contempt or ridicule.
- 4.7 Advertising shall not encourage minors to buy or lease products or services or request adults to buy any product or service for them.
- 4.8 Advertising should not invite minors to buy products or services through distance communication including mail, phone, computer, e-mail or internet.
- 4.9 It is prohibited to show any sponsorship logo during children's programmes.
- 4.10 If minors are shown in programmes of a commercial nature, they should not be seen to present products or services which they are not expected to buy themselves.
- 4.11 Minors should not make significant comments about any characteristics or products and services of which they are not expected to be directly aware.
- 4.12 Minors may not themselves attest to any products and services. However, they can make spontaneous comments about anything in which they might obviously be naturally interested.
- 4.13 Product placement is not allowed during children's programmes.
- 4.14 Any reference to children's competitions is acceptable as long as any required skill is appropriate for the age of likely participants and the value of prizes and the chance of winning are not exaggerated. No proof of purchase shall be requested from those minors who wish to

participate in such competitions.

- 4.15 The broadcaster is duty bound to inform the minor about all relative conditions when free prizes are offered.

Part 5 – Personal development

- 5.1 When adults address children, they should act with respect for their dignity and should not use any patronising language or attitude.
- 5.2 Children's programmes must promote a sound physical style while addressing the themes of nutritious food, sport, exercise and hobbies. No recipe having the ingredients mentioned in paragraphs 4.2 (vii) and (viii) may be prepared during the programme.
- 5.3 Children's programmes must promote a psychological healthy lifestyle.
- 5.4 Children must be shown on the media as well-behaved and having good manners. In programmes, including advertisements, a positive and respectful attitude is expected to be shown towards presenters, other children and viewers (unless differently required by the drama script or should the context indicate otherwise).
- 5.5 Programme content ought to stimulate children's imagination and extend their understanding of life around them.
- 5.6 Children's programmes have to be interactive. This interaction should take place both with the attending audience as well as with viewers. Communication should be adequate and children must not be used merely to fill the studio or as passive recipients of information.
- 5.7 Children's programmes should be creative and should allow space for children's creativity.
- 5.8 Children's programmes should be accessible.

Producers should do anything within their power to add pictures or words on the screen when explaining anything as well as to try showing at least parts of the programme using sign language.

- 5.9 Repetitions should only be made if they are still relevant.
- 5.10 Children should not imitate adults in fashion modelling, singing or dancing.
 - i. Children should be appropriately dressed and their gestures should be suitable for children, not an imitation of adults' gestures.
 - ii. On no occasion should these gestures be provocative.

- iii. Songs selected for dancing or to be sung by children must not be suitable for adults only, nor should they have any explicit or implicit sexual connotation.
- iv. Fashion modelling should not be competitive.
- v. Beauty competitions cannot be held during children's programmes.

- 5.11 It would be plausible to include the following in every schedule, slot or programme:
- i. Teaching on media education. Such teaching should be offered to children and adolescents about how to access, process, evaluate, question and analyse any television material which is provided.
 - ii. News, current events and cultural and artistic programmes addressed to them.

Part 6 – Social development: building a healthy society through positive values

- 6.1 As from a very young age children absorb information about surrounding social norms, no aired content may go against the values of society.
- 6.2 Adults should be generally viewed in a positive manner. When a negative attitude of adults is broadcast, this should only be done to demonstrate that this attitude is not tolerated.
- 6.3 Children should not participate, both directly or indirectly, in programmes based on luck and gambling and/or programmes linking winnings with luck.
- 6.4 A wrong social attitude (such as vandalism, aggression, criminal behaviour or threats) must be shown in all its offensiveness and can never be acceptable.
- 6.5 A programme, including advertising but excluding drama, should not encourage any anti-social behaviour, or show minors behaving in an anti-social manner. Revenge, bullying and certain facial expressions and body movements should all be regarded to be anti-social.
- 6.6 In conflict situations, it should be seen that a conflict is resolved in the best possible way.

Part 7 – Social development: Violence

- 7.1 Displayed and uncalled for violence – whether physical, emotional or psychological – must not appear in children's programmes.
A violent attitude can be shown only when the subject is well defined and developed, shown well in its context and where dangerous and negative

consequences emerge clearly and realistically.

- 7.2 Criminal behaviour should be presented as always carrying an intrinsic or overt message that such behaviour is not acceptable.
Hero and baddie characters should be clearly distinguishable and distinct from each other and a criminal lifestyle must not be presented as a positive style.
- 7.3 Scenes showing cruelty to animals or animals which are treated badly should not be displayed unless such scenes form an essential part of the story or are intended to create greater awareness among the audience about caring more for animals.

Part 8 – Social development: Diversity and stereotypes

- 8.1 The language and approach used about gender, stereotypes and prejudice
 - i. The language used must be inclusive and neutral in that it does not imply any one gender or the other.
 - ii. Presenters must not use stereotype language and material.
 - iii. Presenters must not speak in such manner or show his or her prejudice, and guests on the programme should be corrected immediately if they speak with prejudice.

Persons and groups should not be presented as stereotypes. These must be portrayed holistically, behaving, thinking and acting differently in diverse life situations.

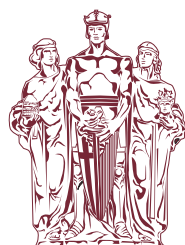
8.2 Diversity

- i. Producers shall invite a different and varied audience and guests, amongst whom girls and boys, both Maltese and other nationals, and from other ethnic groups, with differing values, traditions and abilities.
- ii. Particular sensitivity and balance need to be demonstrated when presenters are speaking about nationality, ethnic origin, colour, age, religion, culture, sexual orientation, socio-economic situations and various skills.

8.3 Family structures

Producers of children's programmes must be sensitive to the fact that there is more than one household model. Households consisting of single parents, adopted children, children raised by families other than their own and other household groups, shall be represented.

8.4 An opportunity should be sought to give a positive description of individual persons or group representatives with a different lifestyle and entertaining different opinions, independent thinkers and those who want to lead an unconventional life so long as their behaviour is not criminally inclined.

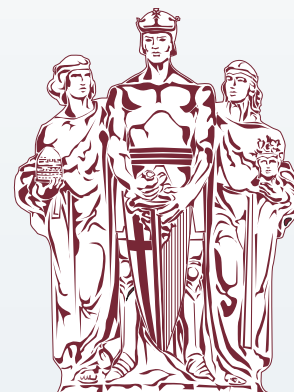


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REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2014

Index

Page

Statement of the Authority's Responsibilities	2
Auditors' Report	2
Income and Expenditure Account	3
Balance Sheet	3
Statement of Changes in Equity	4
Cash Flow Statement	4
Notes to the Financial Statements	5

Schedules

Schedule 1: Income and Expenditure Account	11
Schedule 2: Administrative, Research and Communications Expenses	11
Schedule 3: Departmental Expenses	12

Statement of the Authority's Responsibilities

The Broadcasting Act, 1991 requires the board members to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Authority at the end of the financial period and of the income and expenditure for that period.

In preparing the financial statements, the board members are required to:

- adopt the going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business;
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- account for income and charges relative to the accounting period on the accruals basis;
- value separately the components of assets and liability items; and
- report comparative figures corresponding to those of the preceding accounting period.

The Authority is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy, at any time, the financial position of the Authority and to enable to ensure that the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with the Broadcasting Act, 1991. The Authority is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditors' Report

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Broadcasting Authority (the "Authority") set out on pages 3 to 10 which comprise the balance sheet as of 31 December 2014, and the income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.

Board Members' Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Authority's Board Members are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the Accountancy Profession (General Accounting Principles for Smaller Entities) Regulations, 2009 and the Schedule accompanying and forming an integral part of those Regulations and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the board members, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements, present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of the Authority as at 31 December 2014 and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance the Accountancy Profession (General Accounting Principles for Smaller Entities) Regulations, 2009 and the Schedule accompanying and forming an integral part of those Regulations for qualifying entities as prescribed in those regulations, and comply with the requirements of the Maltese Broadcasting Act (Chap 350).



John Abela (Partner) for and on behalf of

Horwath Malta

Member Crowe Horwath International

La Provvida, Karm Zerafa Street, Birkirkara BKR1713 Malta
17 March 2015

Income and Expenditure Account

Year ended 31 December 2014

	Note	2014 €	2013 €
Income	3	1,130,517	1,052,682
Expenditure		<u>(1,120,242)</u>	<u>(1,123,778)</u>
Deficit for the year	4	<u><u>10,275</u></u>	<u><u>(71,096)</u></u>

Balance Sheet

31 December 2014

	Note	2014 €	2013 €
ASSETS			
Non-current Assets			
Property, Plant and equipment	5	<u>1,984,484</u>	<u>1,943,679</u>
Current Assets			
Trade and other receivables	6	<u>276,946</u>	<u>275,492</u>
Cash and bank balances		<u>458,889</u>	<u>490,177</u>
		<u>735,835</u>	<u>765,669</u>
Total Assets		<u><u>2,720,319</u></u>	<u><u>2,709,348</u></u>
CAPITAL AND LIABILITIES			
Capital and Reserves			
Capital fund	7	<u>2,572,737</u>	<u>2,572,737</u>
Reserve Fund	7	<u>37,270</u>	<u>37,270</u>
Revaluation reserve	8	<u>293,699</u>	<u>293,699</u>
Accumulated reserve	9	<u>(423,885)</u>	<u>(434,160)</u>
		<u>2,479,821</u>	<u>2,469,546</u>
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	<u>240,498</u>	<u>239,802</u>
Total Capital and Liabilities		<u><u>2,720,319</u></u>	<u><u>2,709,348</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 3 to 10 were approved by the members on 17 March 2015 and were signed by:



Mr Anthony J. Tabone
Chairman



Mr Pierre Cassar
Chief Executive

Statement of Changes in Equity**Year ended 31 December 2014**

	Capital Fund €	Reserve Fund €	Revaluation Reserve €	Accumulated Reserve €	Total €
At 1 January 2013	2,572,737	37,270	293,699	(363,064)	2,540,642
Deficit for the year	-	-	-	(71,096)	(71,096)
At 31 December 2013	2,572,737	37,270	293,699	(434,160)	2,469,546
At 1 January 2014	2,572,737	37,270	293,699	(434,160)	2,469,546
Surplus for the year	-	-	-	10,275	10,275
At 31 December 2014	2,572,737	37,270	293,699	(423,885)	2,479,821

Cash Flow Statement**Year ended 31 December 2014**

	Note	2014 €	2013 €
Cash flow from Operating Activities			
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year		10,275	(71,096)
Adjustment for:			
Depreciation charge		80,277	67,872
Bank interest receivable		(3,836)	(7,062)
		86,716	(10,286)
Working capital changes:			
Change in trade and other receivables		(1,722)	(5,879)
Change in trade and other payables		696	(2,375)
Cash generated/(absorbed) from operations		85,690	(18,540)
Bank interest received		4,104	7,062
Net Cash generated from /(absorbed by) Operating Activities		89,794	(11,478)
Investing Activities			
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment		(121,082)	(15,748)
Net cash used in Investing Activities		(121,082)	(15,748)
Net movement in Cash and Cash Equivalents		(31,288)	(27,226)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		490,177	517,403
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	11	458,889	490,177

Notes to the Financial Statements

Year ended 31 December 2014

1. Basis of Preparation

Statement of compliance

The financial statements of Broadcasting Authority ("the Authority") have been prepared in accordance with the Accountancy Profession (General Accounting Principles for Smaller Entities) Regulations, 2009 and the Schedule accompanying and forming an integral part of those Regulations ("GAPSE").

Basis of measurement

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis, except for freehold land and buildings which are stated at revalued amounts.

Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in euro, which is the Authority's functional currency.

2. Significant Accounting Policies

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These accounting policies have been consistently applied to all the periods presented, unless otherwise stated.

Income Recognition

- Income from Government is recognized on an accrual basis.
- Income from the provision of services is recognised in proportion to the stage of completion at the balance sheet date.
- Interest income from investments is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the interest rate applicable.

Property, plant and equipment

Recognition and measurement

The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment is recognised as an asset when it is probable that the future economic benefits that are associated with the asset will flow to the entity and the cost can be measured reliably. Property, plant and equipment are initially measured at cost comprising the purchase price, any costs directly attributable to bringing the assets to a working condition for their intended use, and the costs of dismantling and removing the item and restoring the site on which it is located. Subsequent expenditure is capitalised as part

of the cost of property, plant and equipment only if it enhances the economic benefits of an asset in excess of the previously assessed standard of performance, or it replaces or restores a component that has been separately depreciated over its useful life.

After initial recognition, property, plant and equipment may be carried under the cost model, that is at cost less any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses, or under the revaluation model, that is at their fair value at the date of the revaluation less any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

After initial recognition land and buildings are carried under the revaluation model. Other property, plant and equipment are carried under the cost model.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated to write down the carrying amount of the asset on a straight line basis over its expected useful life. Depreciation of an asset begins when it is available for use and ceases at the earlier of the date that the asset is classified as held for sale (or included in a disposal group that is classified as held for sale) in accordance with Section 24 of GAPSE or the date that the asset is derecognised. The depreciation charge for each period is recognised in profit or loss.

The depreciation rates charged are as follows:

	%
Buildings	1
Motor vehicles	20
Studio equipment	20
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10 – 20
Technical equipment	25
Transmitting antenna	4 – 12
<i>Land is not depreciated</i>	

Impairment

The carrying amounts of the Authority's property, plant and equipment and financial assets are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated.

Whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount, an impairment loss is recognised and the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its

recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless they relate to an asset which is carried at revalued amount, in which case they are treated as a revaluation decrease in accordance with the applicable Section in GAPSE.

The carrying amounts of the Authority's assets are also reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication that an impairment loss recognised in prior periods may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. An impairment loss previously recognised is reversed only if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the asset's recoverable amount since the last impairment loss was recognised. When an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, to the extent that it does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. Impairment reversals are recognised immediately in profit or loss,

unless they relate to an asset which is carried at revalued amount, in which case they are treated as a revaluation increase in accordance with the applicable Section in GAPSE.

Financial assets and financial liabilities

Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are carried at cost less any impairment losses (refer to accounting policy on impairment)

Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables are stated at their nominal value.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash comprises cash on hand and demand deposits. Cash equivalents are short-term investments that are held to meet short-term cash commitments rather than for investment or other purposes.

3. Income

Income represents amount receivable from the Government of Malta as subvention, licences from broadcasting organisations, investment and other income as follows:

	2014	2013
	€	€
Government of Malta Subvention	620,000	582,350
Licences from broadcasting organisations	480,262	446,615
Investment income	3,836	7,062
Other income	26,419	16,655
	1,130,517	1,052,682

4. Deficit for the Year

This is stated after charging the following:

	2014	2013
	€	€
Board members' and board secretary's compensation	97,173	97,526
Wages and salaries	664,453	698,780
Depreciation	80,277	67,872
Audit fees	1,600	1,600

Staff costs incurred during the year are analysed as follows:

	2014	2013
	€	€
Board members honoraria	61,759	61,759
Board secretary's salary	35,414	35,767
Wages and salaries	615,642	650,355
	712,815	747,881
Social security contributions	48,811	48,425
	761,626	796,306

The average number of persons employed during the year, including board members, was made up as follows:

	2014	2013
	No.	No.
Board members	5	5
Operations	27	28
	32	33

The decrease in the number of employees represents the termination of two staff members which were not replaced.

5. Property, Plant and Equipment

	Freehold Land	Building & Improvements	Transmitting Antenna	Fixtures Fittings & Equipment	Technical Equipment	Studio Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Total
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
At 1 January 2014								
Cost/revalued amount	160,270	1,862,680	691,654	445,652	185,887	192,128	55,250	3,593,521
Accumulated depreciation	-	(337,593)	(477,112)	(430,399)	(177,010)	(192,128)	(35,600)	(1,649,842)
Net book amount	160,270	1,525,087	214,542	15,253	8,877	-	19,650	1,943,679
Year ended 31 December 2014								
Opening net book amount	160,270	1,525,087	214,542	15,253	8,877	-	19,650	1,943,679
Additions	-	-	12,508	107,051	1,523	-	-	121,082
Depreciation charge	-	(18,627)	(23,987)	(26,950)	(4,163)	-	(6,550)	(80,277)
Closing net book amount	160,270	1,506,460	203,063	95,354	6,237	-	13,100	1,984,484
At 31 December 2014								
Cost/revalued amount	160,270	1,862,680	704,162	552,703	187,410	192,128	55,250	3,714,603
Accumulated depreciation	-	(356,220)	(501,099)	(457,349)	(181,173)	(192,128)	(42,150)	(1,730,119)
Net book amount	160,270	1,506,460	203,063	95,354	6,237	-	13,100	1,984,484

5. Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

Land and buildings

Land and the transmitting antenna were revalued by an independent valuer on 25 March 1991 and 28 August 1991 respectively on an open market existing use basis.

The carrying amount of land and transmitting antenna that would have been included in the financial statements had these assets been carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses is €1,525 (2013: €1,525).

Contractual commitments

In 2015, the Authority is anticipated to conduct a project on the Master Antenna of Gharghur. The cost of such project, which could vary substantially, is estimated to be €180,000.

Fully depreciated fixed assets

Fully depreciated fixed assets still in use at the balance sheet date amounted to:

	2014	2013
	€	€
Motor vehicles	22,500	22,500
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	420,863	412,711
Studio equipment	192,129	192,129
Technical equipment	175,116	170,760
Transmitting Antenna	163,012	156,871
	973,620	954,971

6. Trade and other Receivables

	2014	2013
	€	€
Licences receivable	254,350	249,931
Other debtors	15,363	15,357
Prepayments and accrued income	7,233	10,204
	276,946	275,492

Receivables are stated net of a provision for bad debts amounting to €50,830 (2013: €38,164)

7. Capital Fund and Reserve Fund

These funds have been set up in accordance with Section 26 of the Broadcasting Act, 1991.

8. Revaluation Reserve

The revaluation reserve has arisen from a valuation carried out on land and transmitting antenna in 1991.

9. Accumulated Reserve

The accumulated reserve represents net accumulated deficit

10. Trade and Other Payables

	2014	2013
	€	€
Capital creditor	6,737	-
Accruals and deferred income	233,761	239,802
	240,498	239,802

11. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents included in the cash flow statement comprise the following balance sheet amounts:

	2014	2013
	€	€
Cash at bank and in hand	458,889	490,177

12. Commitments and Contingencies

Details of the Authority's commitments at the balance sheet date have been disclosed in note 5 to these financial statements.

Schedules to the Income and Expenditure Account**Year ended 31 December 2014****Schedule 1****Income and Expenditure Account****Year ended 31 December 2014**

	2014	2013
	€	€
Income		
Government contributions	620,000	582,350
Application fees	21,563	24,671
Licences	351,043	310,163
Rental fees receivable	47,102	51,227
Master Antenna facilities fees	60,554	60,554
Investment income	3,836	7,062
Other income	26,419	16,655
	1,130,517	1,052,682
Expenditure		
Administrative (schedule 2)	605,640	599,112
Research and communications (schedule 2)	90,509	87,463
Production (schedule 3)	2,013	6,046
Monitoring (schedule 3)	374,295	387,812
Technical (schedule 3)	47,785	43,345
	1,120,242	1,123,778

Schedule 2**Administrative, Research and Communications Expenses****Year ended 31 December 2014**

	2014	2013
	€	€
Administrative Expenses		
Members' honoraria	61,759	61,759
Legal advisors' honoraria	5,824	5,824
Wages & Salaries	277,552	303,986
Staff training	2,817	3,786
Telecommunications	15,985	13,853
Water and electricity	20,835	39,120
Insurance	5,656	5,721
Stationery	8,487	5,387
Subscriptions and publications	2,098	2,465
International organisations membership fees	2,228	2,000
Repairs and maintenance	16,877	14,962
IT maintenance and support	18,639	7,966
Duty visits abroad	16,593	12,963
Transport	7,709	7,764
Rentals of radio & TV sets	6,083	6,254
Staff health scheme	21,657	21,801

Sundry expenses	8,777	9,561
Auditors' remuneration	1,600	1,600
Legal and professional fees	13,130	4,849
Depreciation	76,114	62,810
Increase in provision for bad debts	12,666	3,976
Secretarial services	2,554	705
	605,640	599,112

Research and Communications Expenses

	2014	2013
	€	€
Wages and salaries	47,248	48,637
Audience and qualitative research study	26,721	31,052
Seminars and conferences	-	1,612
Public relations	5,851	3,202
Advertising	781	6
Broadcasters' training and support	6,681	1,750
BA reports and publications	3,227	1,204
	90,509	87,463

Schedule 3**Departmental Expenses****Year ended 31 December 2014**

	2014	2013
	€	€
Production Department		
Wages and salaries	840	960
TV political broadcasts	1,173	5,086
	2,013	6,046
Monitoring Department		
Wages and salaries	368,403	375,140
Purchase of audio tapes and DVD's	718	4,267
Repairs and maintenance	-	54
Depreciation	4,163	5,063
Staff training	1,011	3,288
	374,295	387,812
Technical Department		
Għargħur site running costs	47,260	34,758
Repairs and maintenance	398	8,587
Technical assistance	127	-
	47,785	43,345