



[12 September 2013]

CONFERENCE ON TRANSPARENCY OF MEDIA OWNERSHIP

Organised by

Access Info Europe and Open Society Media Program

in co-operation with the

Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society

and the

Parliamentary Projects Support Division

of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

Brussels, 24 September 2013

(Hotel Thon EU, 75 Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat)

DRAFT PROGRAMME

24 September 2013, Tuesday

9:00 Welcome:

- Mark Thompson, Open Society Foundations
- Deborah Bergamini, Chair of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, Member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies

9:30 Opening presentation:

Fiona Harrison, Access Info Europe

Findings and Recommendations – presentation of Access Info and Open Society Media Program research in 20 countries

10:00 Panel 1: Transparency of Media Ownership – challenges, best practices and policy recommendations

Moderator: Susan Treadwell, Open Society Initiative for Europe

Panellists:

- Alexander Kashumov, Access to Information Programme, Bulgaria
- Andris Mellakauls, Chair of Council of Europe Steering Committee on Media and Information Society, Head of Section at the Ministry of Culture of Latvia
- Peggy Valcke, Research Professor and Expert on Media Law, University of Leuven

11:00 Coffee and snacks

11:30 Panel 2: Transparency of Media Ownership – policy options and next steps

Moderator: Helen Darbishire, Executive Director, Access Info Europe

Panellists:

- Gülsün Bilgehan, Member and Rapporteur of the PACE Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey
- Renate Weber, Member and Rapporteur of the European Parliament
- Lorena Boix-Alonso, Head of Unit converging media and content, DG CONNECT, European Commission

13:00 Buffet lunch

14:30 **Panel 3: Transparency of Media Ownership - the role of parliaments**

Moderator: Deborah Bergamini, Chair of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, Member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies

Statements by:

- José Mendes Bota, Chair of the Committee on Ethics, Citizenship and Media, Assembly of the Republic of Portugal
- Solveig Horne, Member of the Committee on Family and Cultural Affairs, Parliament of Norway
- Mykola Kniazhytsky, Chair of the Sub-committee on Broadcasting, Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
- Chiril Lucinschi, Chair of the Committee on Culture, Education, Research, Youth, Sports and Media, Parliament of the Republic of Moldova
- Jasen Mesić, Chair of the Committee on Information and Media, Parliament of Croatia
- Marija Obradovic, Deputy Head of the Culture and Information Committee of the National Assembly of Serbia
- John Wittingdale, OBE, Chair of the Select Committee on Culture, Media and Sport, House of Commons of the United Kingdom
- N.N.

Discussion

16:00 Coffee break

16:30 **Panel 4: Transparency of Media Ownership - views from the media**

Moderator: Gvozden Flego, Rapporteur on media freedom of the PACE Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, Member of the Parliament of Croatia

Panellists:

- Marc Gruber, Director, European Federation of Journalists
- Francine Cunningham, Executive Director, European Newspaper Publishers Association
- Ross Biggam, Director General, Association of Commercial Television in Europe
- Jean-François Furnémont, Chair of the European Platform of Regulatory Authorities (tbc)

Discussion

Conclusions:

- Deborah Bergamini, Chair of the PACE Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society, Member of the Italian Chamber of Deputies
- Helen Darbishire, Executive Director, Access Info Europe

18:00 End of the conference