

CONFERENCE ON
**TRANSPARENCY OF
MEDIA OWNERSHIP**

ORGANISED BY

Open Society Media Program & Access Info Europe

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)

AGENDA

9:00–9:30 WELCOME

- **Mark Thompson**, Open Society Foundations
- **Gülsün Bilgehan**, PACE Committee—Rapporteur and Author of Motion on Increasing Media Transparency in Europe

9:30 –10:00 PRESENTATION OF FINDINGS

- **Fiona Harrison**, Access Info Europe
presentation of Access Info and Open Society Media Program research in 20 countries and the draft recommendations arising from it

10:00–11:00 PANEL 1: Challenges, Best Practices, and Recommendations

Moderator

- **Susan Treadwell**, Open Society Initiative for Europe

Statements by

- **Alexander Kashumov**, Access to Information Programme, Bulgaria
- **Peggy Valcke**, Professor of Media Law, University of Leuven, Belgium
- **Andris Mellakauls**, Chair of Council of Europe Steering Committee on Media and the Information Society / Ministry of Culture, Latvia

11:00–11:30 *Coffee and snacks*

11:30–13:00 PANEL 2: Securing Transparency of Media Ownership—Policy Options

Moderator

- **Helen Darbshire**, Executive Director of Access Info Europe

Statements by

- **Gülsün Bilgehan**, PACE Committee—Rapporteur and Author of Motion on Increasing Media Transparency in Europe
- **Renate Weber** MEP, ALDE Group—Rapporteur for the Report on the “EU Charter: standard setting for media freedom across the EU”
- **Lorena Boix-Alonso**, Head of Unit Converging media and content, DG CONNECT

13:00 *Buffet lunch*

14:30–16:00 **PANEL 3: Transparency of Media Ownership—The Role of Parliaments**

Moderator

- **Gvozden Flego**, Rapporteur of the PACE Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, Member of the Croatian National Assembly

Statements by the Chairs of national parliamentary committees

- **José Mendes Bota**, Chair of the Committee on Ethics, Citizenship and Media, Assembly of the Republic of Portugal
- **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 Whittingdale**, OBE, Chair of the Select Committee on Culture, Media and Sport, House of Commons of the United Kingdom

DISCUSSION

16:00–16:30 *Coffee break*

16:30–18:00 **PANEL 4: Transparency of Media Ownership—Views from the Media**

Moderator

- **Gülsün Bilgehan**, PACE Committee—Rapporteur and Author of Motion on Increasing Media Transparency in Europe

Statements by

- **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

DISCUSSION

CONCLUSIONS

- **Gülsün Bilgehan**, PACE Committee—Rapporteur and Author of Motion on Increasing Media Transparency in Europe
- **Helen Darbshire**, Executive Director, Access Info Europe

18:00

End of the Conference