

## OVERVIEW OF FUNDING METHODS AND FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF BROADCASTERS AS SET BY MEDIA LAWS

### ALBANIA

According to the Albanian Law on Public and Private Radio and Television, there are public and private radios and televisions, as well as national radio-television; whereas licenses are national and local. It is expressly stated that no person or legal entity, either domestic or foreign, can have over 40% of capital in a single broadcasting company. Further, when applying for license, an applicant must provide proof of banking guarantees on capital to be invested in establishment of a broadcasting operator. It is stipulated that the National Radio and Television Council (counterpart to our Broadcasting Council) shall verify whether the invested capital suits the technical and program project submitted in the application for granting of media license.

Each broadcaster pays founding and annual fee for program broadcasting and is obliged to submit a detailed annual report on program costs and realized income, as well as a list of sponsors and donators.

National Radio and Television are financed from fees on radio and TV sets (paid through electricity bills), own income realized in accordance with the law, sponsorships and donations, as well as from the state budget (with exact listing of items financed from the state budget).

**The Law fixes the amount of license fees but not the amounts of fines for violations.**

According to the Albanian Law on Public and Private Radio and Television, the national Radio and Television Council is also in charge of fixing fees for granting and extension of licenses, as well as annual broadcasting fees (Art.11, paras. 2 and 3). Depending on the type of broadcasters and servicing zones, the fees range from 15 to 20 thousand leks (EUR 118-157) for granting and extension of licenses, and from 1,150 to 5 million leks (EUR 9-39,401) for annual fees.

The penal policy is not specified in terms of fine amounts.