

INFORMATION ON THE MEDIA SITUATION IN SLOVENIA

- The Government does not control the media, does not have ownership shares in media companies and does not impose censorship (see attachment).
- **Ownership structure of the media:**
- **The Republic of Slovenia does not directly own shares of the printed media.** Indirectly, it has small shares in Večer (10%) through the Slovenska odškodninska družba (SOD – Slovenian Compensation Company), Dnevnik (2.67%) through Mobitel, and in Primorske Novice through Luka Koper, Hit and Intereuropa (totalling 30.77%). **According to the data compiled by the Ministry of Culture, there are currently 915 printed media in Slovenia, including 7 dailies, 43 weeklies and 57 biweeklies.**
- **With the exception of the public broadcaster RTV Slovenia, the Republic of Slovenia does not have shares in any radio station.** RTV Slovenia has radio channels Val 202, Radio Slovenija, Radio Koper, Radio Maribor, Pomurski madžarski radio, Radio ARS and Radio Slovenia International. Excluding the national radio station and **the three largest commercial stations there are 62 radio stations in Slovenia.**
- **With the exception of the public broadcaster RTV Slovenia, the Republic of Slovenia does not own shares in digital media.** The Republic of Slovenia owns Zavarovalnica Triglav insurance company, which is the majority owner of Triglav naložbe, finančna družba d.d., which is a minority shareholder of Info TV television station. Excluding the public broadcaster, **there are 36 private TV stations in Slovenia.**
- **Government Communication Office Analysis:** in the period **August 2007 – October 2007** as many as **1580 negative articles** were written about the **Government and its work.** During the term of the **Rop Government** (August 2003 – October 2003) there were only **689 negative articles** about the Government and its work.
- **Politbarometer public opinion poll in September 2007 (Faculty of Social Sciences):** Two questions referred to **media independence.** According to data collected, **most respondents believe that reporting was more objective now (during the incumbent Government) that it was two years ago.**

- **Analysis of Slovenian media with regard to the attitude to economic and social reform, the Prime Minister and the cabinet, April 2006** (IRSA Institute for Development and Strategic Analyses). Findings: **negative media presentation** of the Government as a whole and particularly of the PM is in overwhelming majority **in comparison with the more positive, there are no facts to support the presumptions** that, because of alleged pressure or other reasons, the media have become '**pro-government**', but rather on the contrary.
- **Peace Institute – Institute for Contemporary Social and Political Studies: research on the national public broadcaster** – programme guidelines and the way of reporting **has not changed in the last two years.**
- **Evaluations by international organisations** assessing media freedom, and **national analyses and studies in the field:** Slovenia is among the countries **with the highest ratings with regard to media freedom and the state of democracy.** The analyses and evaluations include:
 - 1) ***Nations in Transit 2007*** drawn up by the independent organisation Freedom House is a study focusing on countries in transit – **Slovenia ranks among the countries with independent media.** Despite the slightly worse result – although in 2007 ratings fell for most studied countries – Slovenia is still the first in terms of the general level of democracy in the region.
 - 2) ***Freedom of the Press*** survey carried out by the same organisation which also evaluates other countries gives a similar picture: **Slovenia is in the first group of countries where the situation regarding media freedom is good** (with Australia, Austria, Hungary, Japan and France).
 - 3) ***Reporters without borders – for the freedom of press:*** the 2006 report places **Slovenia among countries with the best developed media sphere.** The 2007 report describes the situation regarding media freedom as good, placing France, Spain, Italy, USA and Australia behind Slovenia.
- Various analyses in Slovenia and abroad reach fairly **uniform conclusions, i.e. that media democracy and freedom in Slovenia are good and comparable on an international level.**