



Doc. 13775

30 April 2015

New methods of political influence over independent journalism

Motion for a resolution

tabled by Ms Vesna MARJANOVIĆ and other members of the Assembly

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

Freedom of expression and information through the media requires that journalists can work without political pressure on them. While traditional censorship exists in a dictatorship only, journalists often face new forms of limiting their independence and work, and often exerting to auto censorship. In Europe today, there is an alarming increase of mass media which are intentionally used to lead public opinion and the population.

In some member States of the Council of Europe, editors and leading journalists have been replaced because of pressure exerted by political parties or government members. Public broadcasters are not sufficiently independent of government influence. Political ambitions of media owners have led to the change of media staff. Economic pressures upon media have determined their unwillingness to report about matters of public concern.

Such situations challenge media freedom, which is a necessary condition for democracy. Therefore, the Parliamentary Assembly should analyse this situation and point to possible safeguards for journalists and their work.

Signed (see overleaf)



*Signed*¹:

MARJANOVIĆ Vesna, Serbia, SOC
ANTIČEVIĆ MARINOVIĆ Ingrid, Croatia, SOC
BIES Philippe, France, SOC
BİLGEHAN Gülsün, Turkey, SOC
CHRISTOFFERSEN Lise, Norway, SOC
CORMAN Igor, Republic of Moldova, SOC
DÍAZ TEJERA Arcadio, Spain, SOC
ECCLES Diana, United Kingdom, EC
FLEGO Gvozden Srećko, Croatia, SOC
GROSS Andreas, Switzerland, SOC
GUNNARSSON Jonas, Sweden, SOC
HARANGOZÓ Gábor, Hungary, SOC
HEINRICH Gabriela, Germany, SOC
JANSSON Eva-Lena, Sweden, SOC
KOLMAN Igor, Croatia, ALDE
LUNDGREN Kerstin, Sweden, ALDE
MAGRADZE Guguli, Georgia, SOC
OHLSSON Carina, Sweden, SOC
RAWERT Mechthild, Germany, SOC
SCHENNACH Stefan, Austria, SOC
SCHWABE Frank, Germany, SOC
VUČKOVIĆ Nataša, Serbia, SOC
WACH Piotr, Poland, EPP/CD

1. ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
EC: European Conservatives Group
EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party
SOC: Socialist Group