



Recommendation 1228 (1994)¹

Cable networks and local television stations: their importance for Greater Europe

Parliamentary Assembly

1. The Parliamentary Assembly notes that the development of cable networks, satellite broadcasts and local television stations can foster democracy in the countries of central and eastern Europe.
2. It further observes the development under way in other countries, particularly in the United States, where closer links are being established among telephone and information companies and cable operators.
3. Having examined the situation of cable networks in Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly observes that the level of development of these networks differs from one country to another. Each country has its own problems, particularly on the technical front, but also in respect of legislation and management. Awareness of the importance of the technological, industrial, economic and cultural issues is necessary for the protection of European interests.
4. The Assembly has regard in this context to:
 - 4.1. its [Recommendation 1098 \(1989\)](#) on east-west audiovisual co-operation;
 - 4.2. its [Recommendation 1110 \(1989\)](#) on distance teaching;
 - 4.3. its [Resolution 937 \(1990\)](#) on telecommunications: the implications for Europe;
 - 4.4. its [Resolution 957 \(1991\)](#) on the situation of local radio in Europe;
 - 4.5. its [Recommendation 1147 \(1991\)](#) on parliamentary responsibility for the democratic reform of broadcasting; and also to:
 - 4.6. the European Convention on Transfrontier Television (of 5 May 1989);
 - 4.7. [Resolution 253 \(1993\)](#) on the regional dimension of the European audiovisual area of the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE).
5. The Assembly considers that the creation of the European Audiovisual Observatory - now a reality, as proposed by the Committee of Ministers in Resolution (92) 70 - responsible for collecting data on the various forms of communication, is an important step, since availability of legal, economic and programme-related information to professional circles will ensure a more open market.
6. The Assembly, therefore, requests the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to invite the Steering Committee on the Mass Media (CDMM):
 - 6.1. to carry out a survey of cable networks and local television stations in the countries of central and eastern Europe, which findings should assist, in particular, in:
 - a. support for the efforts of cable networks and local television stations in central and eastern Europe through the provision of production and post-production material in exchange for programmes;

1. Assembly debate on 24 January 1994 (1st Sitting) (see [Doc. 6977](#), report of the Committee on Science and Technology, Rapporteur: Mr Bartodziej). Text adopted by the Assembly on 24 January 1994 (1st Sitting).



