



OPERATING EUROVISION AND EURORADIO

DATE

12 January 2021

BY EMAIL

doina.gradea@tvr.ro

COPY TO

Vanessa O'Connor (oconnor@ebu.ch)

Radka Betcheva (betcheva@ebu.ch)

REFERENCE

DG/rb/sg

Doina Gradea
President Director General
Televiziunea Romana
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Bucharest 010565
Romania

Dear Doina,

Allow me first and foremost to wish you all the best for 2021. I hope you, your family, friends and colleagues are well and that we can look forward to clearer skies in the coming months.

Thank you very much for your letter of 5 January, and for sharing your concerns about political interference with TVR's editorial policy.

Public Service Media independence, and particularly editorial independence, is one of the core values of the EBU, as adopted by the EBU General Assembly in Strasbourg in 2012, and one that it is strongly committed to upholding. Independence is also boldly emphasized in various international political instruments and Council of Europe (CoE) recommendations.

CoE Recommendation No. R (96) 10 of the Committee of Ministers to Member States on the Guarantee of the Independence of Public Service Broadcasting in its Guidelines provides in the general provisions that: "The legal framework governing public service broadcasting organisations should clearly stipulate their editorial independence and institutional autonomy, especially in areas such as: (...) the conception and production of programmes".

TVR, like many Public Service Media organisations in Europe, has played an indispensable role in society during the COVID pandemic, providing citizens with vital information, official announcements on the sanitary crisis, educational content for children and entertainment relief for people isolated by lockdown. Our research shows that trust in PSM in Europe increased during the crisis, reflecting its independence and editorial judgement as well as a genuine public commitment to inform, educate, entertain and connect.

The remit of PSM is broad, embracing culture, sport and entertainment along with information and current affairs. PSM plays an important role in society, promoting national culture and identity, history, creativity and humour, including satire, to enrich and inspire the daily lives of people and bring them together.

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We trust that political representatives in Romania will respect and adhere to international standards relating to PSM's editorial independence and institutional autonomy and will allow TVR to pursue its work free from interference and in the best interests of a discerning public.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Noel Curran', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Noel Curran
Director General