



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
The Representative on Freedom of the Media
Dunja Mijatović**

179/15

Vienna, 3 June 2015

**H.E. Ilir Meta
Speaker of Parliament
Albania**

Your Excellency,

I am writing to you in relation to your request for technical assistance with regard to an amendment to the Law no. 97/2013 “On audiovisual media in the Republic of Albania”, that was kindly forwarded to me by Ambassador Raunig.

During my recent official visit to Albania I also addressed the issue contained in this proposal and discussed it with different interlocutors.

Having closely analysed the proposed amendment to repeal the Article 62 of Law no. 97/2013 my conclusion is that this could in the long-term very negatively impact media plurality and therefore media freedom in Albania.

Namely, for a vibrant media landscape where there is a plurality of views and opinions it is essential to ensure that no one person or company is able to dominate and ultimately control the media landscape. This is why countries have developed legislation that imposes limits and provides for an assessment of the possible impact on media freedom and plurality before any major takeovers or mergers of media outlets take place. This should also remain the case in Albania.

When it comes to regulating media concentration there is no single model, quite the opposite each country needs to make a detailed analysis of the current media market, have an open and transparent consultation process before putting forward any such legislative changes.

I am ready to continue providing my assistance in this area look forward to continue open and sincere engagement with all relevant actors.

Availing myself of this opportunity, please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Dunja Mijatović

CC: **H.E. Ambassador Spiro Koçi**
Head of the Permanent Mission of Albania to the OSCE

H.E. Ambassador Florian Raunig
Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania