

EPRA ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME for 2013

21 January 2013

CONTENTS

A. Introduction	1
B. Plenary Themes	1
C. Working Groups	2
D. At a glance: EPRA Annual Work Programme For 2013	4

A. Introduction

EPRA's annual work programme aims to enhance transparency for members and external stakeholders of EPRA's priorities and anticipated work for 2013. The EPRA Board approved the final programme during its Executive Board meeting which took place on 11 January 2013 in London. The final programme reflects the views expressed by members during the consultation phase (December - January), all of which were broadly supportive of the proposals. Permanent Observers were also asked to provide their views.

The 2013 work programme remains built around the current EPRA meetings structure, maintaining a format that has been functioning well in the last years:

- Two plenary themes: these cover topics of relevance to all members, for discussion in both the May and October meetings. The specific topics will be fine-tuned ahead of each meeting and the format would normally be that of a panel of regulators.
- Three working groups: the format may vary from a roundtable discussion, a presentation by an external speaker (e.g. industry) or individual presentations by members.

Further to the unfortunate cancellation of the autumn meeting in Jerusalem, the work programme 2013 integrates some of the most promising topics from the 2012 work programme in order to ensure a balance between continuity and emerging new topics gathered from the suggestions of EPRA members.

B. Plenary Themes for 2013

1. Challenges of the Regulation of On-Demand Media Services

This plenary theme is a continuation of the EPRA work on the regulation of new media services conducted since 2011 at the meetings in Ohrid (focus on issues of scope), Brussels (focus on issues of jurisdiction) and Portorož (issues of scope revisited).

The general theme will materialise with:

- A session (which will take place in Kraków, on 8-10 May 2013) on content aspects focusing on the protection of minors on on-demand media services, looking at the practical implementation by NRAs of protection of minors measures on VOD, the protection of minors across the various media platforms and the articulation between traditional regulation, co and self-regulation.
- A methodology and best practices-oriented session (which will take place in Vilnius, on 2-4 October 2013) focusing on the concrete supervision of on-demand services by NRAs (e.g. progress on identification of services and scope determination of notified services, use of tracking tools, monitoring and reporting, calculation and indicators of Article 13 AVMSD etc.).

2. Ensuring Quality Programming in a Connected Environment

Building up on previous EPRA discussions, as well as recent and ongoing reports on pluralism, the general theme will address the issue of how to ensure quality programming in a connected environment and what role regulatory authorities can play in the process.

The general theme will materialise with:

- A session on the regulation of public service media (which will take place in Kraków, on 8-10 May 2013) addressing issues of prominence of public service content on Connected TV platforms, issues around production, competition, the role played by NRAs in assessing public service remit and conducting public value tests etc.
- A session looking at issues of pluralism in a world of online delivery (which will take place in Vilnius, on 2-4 October 2013) addressing the role played by NRAs and the toolkit and indicators at their disposal to measure or assess the level of plurality.

C. Working Groups for 2013

EPRA will keep the format of two yearly working groups and one ad-hoc group per meeting. For the two yearly groups, the work will be led by one regulatory authority, which will coordinate the work during the year (primarily via email) and chair the relevant session during EPRA meetings. The scope, timeline and outputs or deliverables will vary depending on the issue and on the interests and input from the working group members. Members of the Board will sponsor the work of the individual working groups to oversee progress and support the lead RA.

WG1: Political Communication (yearly WG: i.e. convening twice – with parallel email group)

- Building on previous EPRA debates and comparative documents produced for the meetings in Paris (2000), Elsinore (2006), Dublin (2008) and Dresden (2009), this working group would revisit the issue of political communication, take stock of the new developments (concerning the regulation of elections and party political broadcasts, political advertising, issues of fair access to television further to the case-law of the ECtHR etc.) and look at the regulation of political communication on new media (e.g. issue of opinion polls etc). This yearly group would enable RAs to exchange information and best practices and discuss case studies.
- NRA lead: AGCOM (Italy)
- Board Sponsor: *Maja Cappello*, EPRA Vice-Chair.

WG2: Local & Community Media (yearly WG: i.e. convening twice – with parallel email group)

- After a promising start in 2012, the Local & Community Media working group will continue and deepen its activities to promote the exchange of best practices with regard to licensing local, non-profit and community media (covering TV and radio), assessing/monitoring content requirements, analysing necessary prerequisites for a sustainable sector, not to forget issues raised by digital transition.
- NRA lead: CSA (Belgium); *Bernard Dubuisson*, Group Coordinator
- Board Sponsor: *Jean-François Furnémont*, EPRA Chair.

WG3: Ad-hoc working group: (i.e. two groups convening just once – NO parallel email group)

The third working group will address ad-hoc themes on the occasion of the meetings in Kraków and Vilnius. This type of group provides an opportunity to discuss topical subjects and requires less involvement and lighter preparation work for the NRA lead than a yearly group.

- **Accessibility** (Kraków, 8-10 May 2013)
The preparatory work (questionnaire) for the ad-hoc Working group on *Accessibility issues* scheduled in Jerusalem yielded very relevant information and highlighted the potential benefits of holding such a discussion in spring 2013.
- Lead: EPRA Secretariat
- Board Sponsor: *Damir Hajduk*, EPRA Vice-Chair

- **To be defined** (Vilnius, 2-4 October 2013)
The answers to the members' consultation showed no clear consensus on the topic for the ad-hoc group for the meeting in Vilnius. This group will thus be left open to allow for discussion of new issues as they arise. Potential areas of interest include commercial communications, platform and access regulation, self and co-regulation, issues around enforcement, etc.

The topic of WG 3 for the EPRA meeting in October 2013 will be decided at the latest during the EPRA meeting in May in Kraków.

AT A GLANCE: EPRA ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2013

SPRING MEETING 2013:

Kraków, 8-10 May

At the invitation of the [National Broadcasting Council of Poland](#)

PLENARY SESSION I:

GENERAL THEME: Challenges of the Regulation of On-Demand Media Services

SPECIAL FOCUS: *The Protection of Minors in a Connected Environment*

PLENARY SESSION II:

GENERAL THEME: Ensuring Quality Programming in a Connected Environment

SPECIAL FOCUS: *Public Service Media in a Connected Environment*

WORKING GROUP 1:

Political Communication

WORKING GROUP 2:

Local and Community Media

WORKING GROUP 3:

Round table on Accessibility

AUTUMN MEETING 2013:

Vilnius, 2-4 October

At the invitation of the [Radio and Television Commission of Lithuania](#)

PLENARY SESSION I:

GENERAL THEME: Challenges of the Regulation of On-Demand Media Services

SPECIAL FOCUS: *Supervising On-Demand Media Services: Methodology & Best Practices*

PLENARY SESSION II:

GENERAL THEME: Ensuring Quality Programming in a Connected Environment

SPECIAL FOCUS: *Assessing Plurality in a World of Online delivery*

WORKING GROUP 1:

Political Communication

WORKING GROUP 2:

Local and Community Media

WORKING GROUP 3:

Ad-hoc theme (tbc.)

For comments and offers of contribution as a speaker, panellist, content producer, etc., please contact: machet@ep^{ra}.org