



**18th Plenary Assembly, 17 and 18 November 2016  
Barcelona, Spain  
Minutes and Action Points**

The 18th Plenary Assembly of the Network of Mediterranean Regulatory Authorities (MNRA) was held in Barcelona on 17 and 18 November 2016, at the invitation of the Vice-Presidency of the Network held by the Spanish Comisión Nacional de los Mercados y la Competencia, (CNMC).

The meeting at the CNMC headquarters in Barcelona was chaired by Ms. Mirjana Rakić, President of the Agency for Electronic Media of Croatia (AEM) then by Mr. Josep Maria Guinart, Member of the CNMC, host of the meeting.

Twenty members participated in the meeting: AMA of Albania, AEM of Croatia, CSA of France, CAC of Catalonia (Spain), CCA of Moldova, ERC of Portugal, GRA of Gibraltar, HACA of Morocco represented by their president, the AEM of Montenegro, the CAA of Andalusia (Spain), the CNMC of Spain, the CRTA of Cyprus, the CNA of Lebanon, the REM of Serbia, the RTÜK of Turkey represented by a member, the AGCOM of Italy, the AVMU of Republic of Macedonia, the BA of Malta, the NCRTV of Greece, the CRA of Bosnia and Herzegovina represented by the services.

***Thursday, November 17, 2016***

- Opening remarks by Ms. Mirjana Rakić, President of MNRA
- Opening speech by Mr. Josep Maria Guinart, Vice-President of MNRA
- Opening of the work

**Network Life (I)**

- **Revision of the charter of MNRA**
  - Presentation of the project by Ms. Joanna Spiteri, Director General of the BA (Malta)
  - Discussion
  - Amendments
- **Transfer of the presidency to the CNMC of Spain, represented by Mr. Josep Maria Guinart, member**
- **The draft revision of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive (AVMS) of the European Commission**
  - Presentation by Mr. José Bellod (European Commission)

- **The independence of regulators in the European Commission's proposal to revise the Audiovisual Media Services (AVMS) Directive**
  - Opening speech by Mr. Olivier Schrameck, President of the CSA (France)
  - Statement by Ms. Mirjana Rakić, President of the AEM (Croatia)
  - Debate

The independence of the regulators, tackled in the framework of the current revision of the regulatory framework of the European Union, was the subject of presentations and exchanges between the members in view of its topicality on a disrupted Euro-Mediterranean scene due to geopolitical changes and changes in digital technologies.

### **Session I - Dealing with the refugees and migrant crisis in the media**

- Presentation by Mr. Tim Francis, Expert, Media and Society Development Section, **UNESCO** Communication and Information Sector
- **Presentation of the draft MNRA Declaration on the informative treatment of migrant and refugees crisis in the audiovisual media** for adoption by Mr. Juan Enrique Grandolph, Director of International Relations, CNMC

The Declaration sets out a set of recommendations for providing advice to the audiovisual media when providing information on migration and the phenomenon of refugees. The Declaration underlines the willingness of the Mediterranean regulatory authorities to encourage the audiovisual media to respect these guidelines.

- Debate and adoption of the Declaration

### **Session II - Media Representation of People with Mental Illnesses or Other Disabilities**

- Presentations by ERC (Portugal), CAC (Catalonia) and HACA (Morocco)
- Debate

### **Session III - Protection of Minors and Media Literacy**

- Presentations by AEM (Croatia), CAC (Catalonia), CAA (Andalusia), CNMC (Spain)
- Debate

***Friday, November 18, 2016***

### **Session IV - Gender and Media Working Group**

- Presentation of the study on sexist stereotypes in commercial communications by CAA (Andalusia) and HACA (Morocco)
- Debate and adoption of the study
- Presentation of the work of the working group on gender equality in sports programs by the AEM (Croatia), the CNMC (Spain) and the HACA (Morocco)

The preliminary results of the study on gender equality in sports programs were presented to the Plenary Assembly. The report will be presented for adoption at the Plenary Assembly in 2017.

- Debate

## Network Life (II) - Statement of Decisions

- **Adoption of the modified network charter which confirms the MNRA overhaul around a new mode of governance and specifies the functioning of the network**

- **Procedures for the election of the vice-president, the network membership and the observer accreditation are regulated** (Articles 3 and 4).

- **The Plenary Assembly**, the supreme body of the network, is the only **decision-making body**. Decisions must be taken by consensus or, failing that, by a simple majority of the members present (Article 4).

- The **network is led by a "troika"** composed of a **presidency, two vice-presidencies**, one incoming and one existing, **which changes every year** (Article 4).

- **An executive secretariat is established within the network.**

The Executive Secretariat of the Network is shared by the CSA of France and the HACA of Morocco. It aims to provide administrative support to the Network, including the Presidency and Vice Presidencies in the performance of their duties. Its tasks are defined in Article 6.

- **The annual technical commission is now composed of the presidency, the two vice-presidencies, the executive secretariat, the five founding members, the CSA of France, the CAC of Catalonia, Spain, the NCRTV of Greece, the AGCOM of Italy, the ERC of Portugal.**

The scope of its missions is redefined (Article 5).

- Temporary thematic working groups may be set up for a period of one year by the Plenary Assembly, at the initiative of at least three members of the Network.

Network members participate on a voluntary basis in the work of these groups (Article 7).

- **Adoption of a Declaration on the informative treatment of Mediterranean Migrants and Refugees crisis in the Audiovisual Media, presented by the CNMC.**

Mediterranean regulators encourage the audiovisual media to respect the fundamental principles of human dignity, privacy, individual or collective identity, accuracy, honesty and the quality of information, and not to affect social cohesion by fighting against discrimination and racism.

- **Adoption of the study on sexist stereotypes in commercial communications, presented by the Working Group on Gender and the Media.**

- **Continuation of the work of the Gender and Media Working Group on Gender Equality in Sport Programs.**

- **Olivier Schrameck, President of the CSA, is appointed vice president of the network.**

Mr. Schrameck will host the 19th Plenary Assembly in France in autumn 2017