

EBU

OPERATING EUROVISION AND EURORADIO

THE GATEWAY TO EUROPE'S PUBLIC SERVICE MEDIA

WORLD'S MOST INFLUENTIAL MEDIA COMMUNITY

The EBU is the world's foremost alliance of public service media (PSM) with Members in 56 countries in Europe and beyond.

Its mission is to safeguard the role of PSM and to promote their indispensable contribution to society. It is the point of reference for industry expertise and a hub for European media knowledge and innovation.

The EBU operates EUROVISION and EURORADIO. EUROVISION is the media industry's premier distributor and producer of top-quality live news, sport, entertainment, culture and music content. EURORADIO enhances public service radio through the exchange of music, professional networking, and the promotion of digital and hybrid radio.

The organization is based in Geneva – a centre of international influence and global impact – and is supplemented by a worldwide network that stretches from Brussels to Rome, from Moscow to New York, Washington DC, Singapore, and Beijing, numbering 370 employees.

EBU ACTIVITIES

TECHNICAL EXPERTISE: We develop and promote uniform, open technical standards that drive media innovation.

LEGAL SUPPORT: We scrutinize legal developments across Europe and provide regulatory advice and support to Members at national and EU level.

MARKET INTELLIGENCE: We monitor developments and trends in the world of media and research key topics of interest to PSM.

ADVOCATING PSM: We ensure that the voice of PSM is heard by European and international decision-makers.

PROMOTING PSM VALUES: We promote the common PSM values of universality, independence, excellence, diversity, accountability and innovation.

MOBILIZING SOLIDARITY: We offer case-by-case support and guidance to Members confronted with political, technical or financial strife.

EUROVISION AND EURORADIO OPERATIONS

RIGHTS: We negotiate major contracts on behalf of Members to provide rights to key sports events and concerts.

SPORT AND NEWS: We manage live sport and news events by providing the infrastructure, onsite facilities and network capacity essential to their delivery.

NETWORK TRANSMISSIONS: The EUROVISION/EURORADIO satellite and fibre network is the largest in the world directly connected to broadcasters.

PROGRAMME AND MUSIC EXCHANGES: We facilitate news and music exchanges and are the world's foremost hub for diverse, trustworthy content.

COPRODUCTIONS: We oversee coproductions across every entertainment genre, including education and culture.

TRAINING: We foster talent by offering targeted master classes on topics including management, news production and standards, and journalist safety.

SERVING EUROPE'S PUBLIC SPHERE

Providing citizens with pluralistic social, cultural, historical and political benchmarks is at the heart of the public service mission. As such, PSM make an indispensable contribution to democracy, national cohesion and European culture.

In June 2011, the Council of Europe and the EBU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that defines shared objectives and values, in particular the promotion and protection of human rights, democracy and the rule of law. In the media field, these objectives translate into action to promote media freedom and pluralism in order to preserve media's vital role in democracy.

In July 2012, a second MoU was signed with the European Commission to support the reform of public broadcasting and promote its sustainability in countries that aspire to join the European Union.

HUB FOR MEDIA EXPERTISE AND KNOWLEDGE

The EBU has historically been at the forefront of setting technical standards and pursuing key initiatives in the field of audiovisual media and radio. Led by its Members, the EBU remains at the forefront of innovation, underpinning the PSM duty to provide compelling content that informs and entertains across all platforms.

The EBU draws on the expertise of its broad membership. It centralizes and disseminates best practices developed by PSM across Europe, and is immediately alert to national, European and global developments.

OUR AIMS

- To safeguard freedom of expression and the safety of journalists
- To ensure the independence and sustainability of PSM now and in the future
- To safeguard the universal access and the ready access of PSM content on all platforms
- To support European culture and simplify the process of making content legally available
- To drive development and innovation across the media industry

THE EBU IN BRUSSELS

Established in 1993, the EBU office in Brussels represents the interests of Members and coordinates EU policy-related activities on their behalf.

The office regularly liaises with the European Institutions and key stakeholders to provide valuable input and expertise for the development of EU media-related policies.



The EBU is registered on the Transparency Register of the European Commission under identification number 93288301615-56.

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MAKING BROADCASTING HISTORY

23 broadcasting organizations in Europe and the Mediterranean founded the EBU on 12 February 1950, shortly before the Schuman declaration and the establishment of the European Coal & Steel Community (ECSC), events that led to the first European Treaty.

Much of broadcasting history has been written through the work of the EBU and over time, the organization's contribution to European media has won international regard.



1950

First international television link between France and the UK



1956

First Eurovision Song Contest in Lugano is relayed live by 10 countries on 24 May

1964

Transmission via EUROVISION of the Tokyo Olympic Games

1981

International Emmy Award for the design of a world standard for digital television



1992

The International Radio & Television Organization (OIRT), an equivalent organization of broadcasters from central and eastern Europe, merges with the EBU

1995

Agreement on a frequency plan for Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB) for digital radio

2012

EUROVISION manages London 2012 Olympic Games media rights in 52 countries on all platforms: TV, radio and mobile devices

1953

The coronation of Elizabeth II is broadcast live in Belgium, France, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom to an estimated audience of 20 million



1961

The launch of EUROVISION News - providing news services with daily exchange of content

1965

First transmissions between North America and Europe using the Telstar satellite

1989

Official launch of the EURORADIO system - the radio equivalent of EUROVISION

1993

Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB) project helps set digital broadcasting standards for much of the world over the next two decades

2011

EBU lights the way for hybrid broadcast broadband TV and radio