



OPERATING EUROVISION AND EURORADIO

DATE

02 March 2016

BY EMAIL

pm@gov.ro

REFERENCE

DG/rb/sg

SUBJECT

Public Service Media in Romania

Mr. Dacian Cioloş
Prime Minister
Palatul Victoria,
Piaţa Victoriei nr. 1, Sector 1,
Bucureşti, 011791
Romania

Dear Prime Minister,
Dear Mr. Cioloş,

I am writing to you to express our great concern about the situation of Televiziunea Romana (TVR) and to ask for your urgent intervention to save this important democratic institution.

Currently TVR is facing complete financial collapse, caused by significant debts. In addition, the temporary management cannot embark on strategic reforms. For the first time in its history TVR will not be able to show its audience one of the largest sports events of the year - Euro 2016. The only option for Romanians is to watch parts of the matches on pay-TV channels.

We at the European Broadcasting Union have done all we can to assist TVR by rescheduling debts, but we are still owed EUR 15 million. We have sent letters to your predecessors and to the Romanian authorities, but the situation has unfortunately only become worse. TVR's crisis should not be ignored any longer and urgent decisions need to be taken about the future of this institution. There is a need for an all-encompassing reform and for new legislation that addresses all key questions regarding public service broadcasting's sustainable funding, governance and remit, based on the proposal developed by TVR.

We are encouraged by the fact that the parliament and the government have held a joint meeting to discuss TVR's situation and that your government is willing to support the parliament's decisions and consider a guarantee for the bank loans that TVR needs to take out to enable it to continue its work.

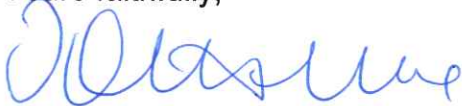
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We trust that your government will take urgent measures to prevent the collapse of TVR and ensure a stable legal and financial environment for public service broadcasting allowing it to make its contribution to society.

Yours faithfully,



Ingrid Deltenre
Director General

Copy to:

- Călin Popescu Tăriceanu, President of the Romanian Senate (presa@senat.ro)
- Anca Dragu, Minister of Finance (cabinet.ministru@mfinante.ro)
- Georgică Severin, President of the Senatorial Commission for Culture and Media (cultura@senat.ro)
- Gigel Sorinel Știrbu, President of the Chamber of Deputies Commission for Culture, Arts, Mass-Media (gigel.stirbu@cdep.ro)