

## II MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING REGULATIONS

### 1. *Law on Public Information*

1.1. The implementation of the Law on Public Information has been elaborated on in the section on freedom of expression.

### 2. *Broadcasting Law*

2.1. In our previous Monitoring Report, we have elaborated on the RBA's failure (in accordance with Article 53, Paragraph 1, Subparagraph 2 of the Broadcasting Law) to publicly release (within seven days from the expiration of the deadline for submitting applications on the open competition for the issuance of broadcasting licenses) the list of all applicants that have submitted a complete and timely applications. In the case of the latter of the two competitions in 2012, called while the previous competition was still underway, the RBA was late in publishing the list of applications almost six months. The list was finally released on June 24, when the new deadline started (90 days for the issuance of the license, including licenses for radio stations – transmitters). That deadline expires on September 21. In our opinion, the delay points to a serious lack of capacity of the RBA to conduct several open competitions simultaneously. By calling an open competition for the issuance of broadcasting licenses for frequencies left vacant after TV Avala was stripped off its license, the situation was again created where two competitions ran in parallel. The solution for such a situation could be found either in simplifying competition procedures or by seriously strengthening the capacities of the Agency to cope with increased workload. As for the aforementioned list of applicants that submitted complete and timely applications on the other competition from 2012, it merely shows the extent of the crisis. For television, for probably the most attractive regional coverage, in Belgrade, as well as for the most attractive local coverage, in Novi Sad, only one candidate applied. Only one application was submitted also for coverage of the region that included Kraljevo, Cacak, Pozega, Gornji Milanovac and several other towns. Several candidates applied only for regional TV coverage of Novi Pazar, Raska and Tutin, but not more than two. Judging from the list that was released, serious competition will exist only for the issuance of the license for the local radio in Krusevac, where there are as much as four candidates, as well as for the local television in Lazarevac, with three contenders.