

MEDIA ADVISORY
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The Open Society Institute launches new resources on media policy in Europe:

- **NEW MONITORING REPORTS** -- "Television across Europe: Follow-up Reports 2008"
- **NEW WEBSITE** -- [Mediapolicy.org](http://mediapolicy.org)

NEW MONITORING REPORTS -- Television across Europe: Follow-up Reports 2008

New monitoring reports on television regulations and practice are available as of today. The reports cover four countries: Albania, Bulgaria, Lithuania and Romania. Reports on five additional countries, as well as an overview, will be published in the coming months. All reports will be translated into local languages.

The reports released today are a follow up to a series of monitoring reports on "Television across Europe: Regulation, Policy and Independence", published in 2005. Unprecedented in its range and practicality, this series surveyed broadcasting in 20 European countries, measuring the reality against national and international commitments and standards. The 2008 follow-up reports review the situation in nine of the original twenty countries, where developments are notably dynamic or turbulent.

The reports reveal that EU membership has not prevented a revival of political influence over broadcasting. Ownership concentration, too, continues apace.

The reports are available at <http://www.mediapolicy.org>.

NEW WEBSITE -- Mediapolicy.org

Mediapolicy.org is a new website dedicated to monitoring and debating issues of broadcasting policy, regulation and independence in Europe and beyond. It is intended as a resource for media professionals, activists, academics and all others interested in broadcasting policy. The website will highlight the developments in an area constantly expanding with the advance of new technologies and the ever-closer convergence of platforms, providers and owners.

In addition to the original Television across Europe reports and the 2008 follow-up reports, the website includes material on other related projects, as well as details of a major new research project on the impact of digitalisation on European broadcasting.

Over time, mediapolicy.org will develop into an online journal that will cover broadcasting policy and standards from various angles, not just in Europe but in other regions of the world as well. In keeping with the Open Society Institute's values and practice, mediapolicy.org will advocate the adoption and full implementation of internationally recognised standards of human rights and professional ethics.

Both the new reports and the new website launched today are produced by the EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program (EUMAP) of the Open Society Institute and the Network Media Program of the Open Society Foundation.

Be in Touch: Further Information

For further information on the reports, contact Marius Dragomir, Project manager (Marius.Dragomir@osf-eu.org) or Miriam Anati, EUMAP Advocacy manager (manati@osieurope.org).

For more information about the website, contact Mark Thompson, Managing editor (Mark.Thompson@osf-eu.org).

EUMAP, the EU Monitoring and Advocacy Program of the Open Society Institute, monitors the development of selected human rights and rule of law issues in the European Union, its candidate and potential countries. To find out more about the Program view: <http://www.eumap.org/about>.

The Media Program of the Open Society Foundation seeks to promote independent, professional, and viable media and quality journalism, primarily in countries undergoing a process of democratization and building functioning media markets. To find out more about the program view: <http://www.soros.org/initiatives/media>.
