

### III MONITORING OF THE PROCESS OF ADOPTION OF NEW LAWS

No media related laws were adopted in the period covered by this Report. However, journalists' and media associations were concerned after learning that an informal group (the members of which remained unknown) in the cabinet of the Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic was working on a set of media laws. This was publicly confirmed both by the parliamentary speaker Nebojsa Stefanovic and the Minister of Culture and Media Bratislav Petkovic. The Independent Journalists' Association of Serbia (NUNS) has issued a press release saying that the competencies of the President, provided for in the Constitution and in the Law on the President, do not include the drafting and proposal of media laws. NUNS insisted that the regulations and procedures of passing media laws ought to be respected. The Minister Bratislav Petkovic said that the work on the set of media laws would be managed by the Ministry of Culture and Media, which had set up the proper team. He added that there was no working group in the President's cabinet; these people were the President's advisors that would be helping the Ministry of Culture and Media. Petkovic also added that the Ministry was collaborating with OSCE in working on the aforementioned media laws. In any case, until the end of the period covered by this Report, the representatives of media and journalists' association have not been included in any manner whatsoever, or informed about what these formal and informal working groups (in the President's cabinet or in the Ministry of Culture and Media) are doing. The lack of transparency is definitively not helping this process.