

LEGAL MONITORING OF SERBIAN MEDIA SCENE - Report for June 2013

VI THE PRIVATIZATION PROCESS

On one hand, any further postponement of the adoption of new media laws will jeopardize the privatization deadlines provided for in these draft laws, in accordance with the Media Strategy. On the other hand, it will increase the concern that the list of exceptions from mandatory privatizations will be expanded, notwithstanding PSBs. One of the dilemmas in that regard has been removed after the interview of the Minister of Culture and Media Bratislav Ivkovic to the daily "Novosti". Petkovic has confirmed that the set of new media laws will make media ownership more transparent and that "Tanjug will be privatized". The latter was one of the key questions in the period prior to the adoption of the Media Strategy, as well as during the implementation thereof, since the state has been undermining competition for years and stifling commercial news agencies by funding Tanjug from the budget.