

Regulating Public Media in Gibraltar

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About the GRA



The GRA is an independent authority that was established under the Gibraltar Regulatory Act 2000

The GRA is a converged regulatory entity, with a wide range of responsibilities across various sectors which includes, amongst other duties, electronic communications, broadcasting and data privacy

The GRA is set up by different divisions, including the Broadcasting Division, each with its own structure and responsibilities

Gibraltar, with an area of 6.7 km² and a population of approximately 34,000, is part of the European Union as an overseas territory of the UK. As such, the GRA has to abide by European law

Broadcasting legislation



Audiovisual media services (“AVMS”) Directive



- The 2010 European AVMS Directive was introduced into Gibraltar law in 2012. The Broadcasting Act 2012 (the “Act”) transposes all the provisions laid down by EU law
- The Act also incorporated the now repealed Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (“GBC”) Act
- GRA Broadcasting Division established
- Main sections of the Act are:

Establishing the GRA’s duties
Licensing of broadcasters
Broadcasting standards



The Media Landscape in Gibraltar

The Media Landscape in Gibraltar



- One television broadcaster



- Two radio broadcasters



- The Gibraltar Broadcasting Corporation (“GBC”) is the sole public service broadcaster for television and radio





The Role of GBC in Gibraltar

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- **The GRA believes that the role of public media in a place such as Gibraltar is to inform, educate and entertain**
- **GBC should concentrate on matters which are important to the local community which are not covered by international media**
- **GBC is subsidised by the Government of Gibraltar to achieve the above**
- **GBC also has to maintain independence and the role of the GRA is ensure their independence**



Maintaining Broadcasting standards

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Codes of Practice

Section 22 of the Act allows the GRA to issue codes of practice

The GRA has published 6 such codes for matters on:

Programme standards

Commercial communications

Political matters

Access services

Right of reply

On-demand Audiovisual media services

Maintaining Broadcasting standards



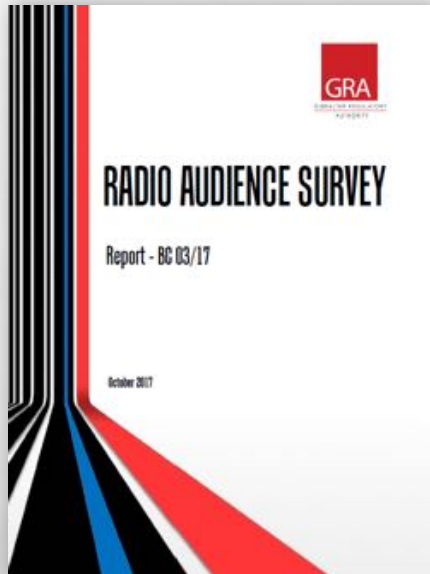
GBC Quarterly Reviews

Review locally produced broadcasts by GBC

Provide guidance and recommendations as necessary

Fosters a good working relationship with GBC

Public Awareness



Radio Audience Survey

General Awareness Campaign

Media Literacy Awareness Campaign





The evolution of Public Service Broadcasting

The evolution of Public Service Broadcasting

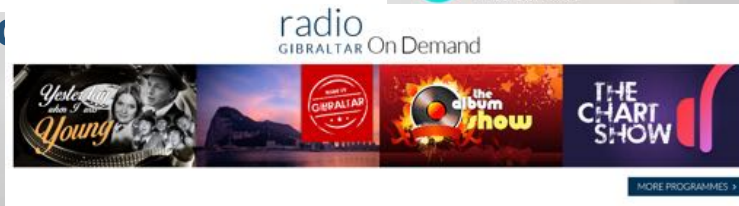


- The GRA welcomes GBC's multiplatform approach



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amended for





Regulatory Challenges in the Digital Era

Regulatory Challenges in the Digital Era



- In recent years, Public Service Media (“PSM”) across Europe has come under political and economic pressure
- There is often debate about the necessity, role and function of PSM in the context of digital media developments especially with the abundance of new media sources and outlets available for audiences
- Some PSM are confronted with declining audience reach
- In several EU states, budget cuts, transfer of the public service remit to commercial media providers or the discontinuation of public media channels have been put into place
- There have even been calls for the abolition of PSM
- It is not unusual for regulatory authorities to be charged with the implementation of such decisions or with supervising their implementation

The situation in Gibraltar?

- Gibraltar is not confronted with all those challenges
- GBC as Gibraltar's PSB continues to play an important role and function
- GBC contributes to national identity and culture
- GBC is Gibraltar's only source of local news on television and radio

Find us on



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Thank you for your attention