



MACEDONIA DEMOCRACY WATCH

REPORT BASED ON THE MONITORING OF TV NEWS PROGRAMMES

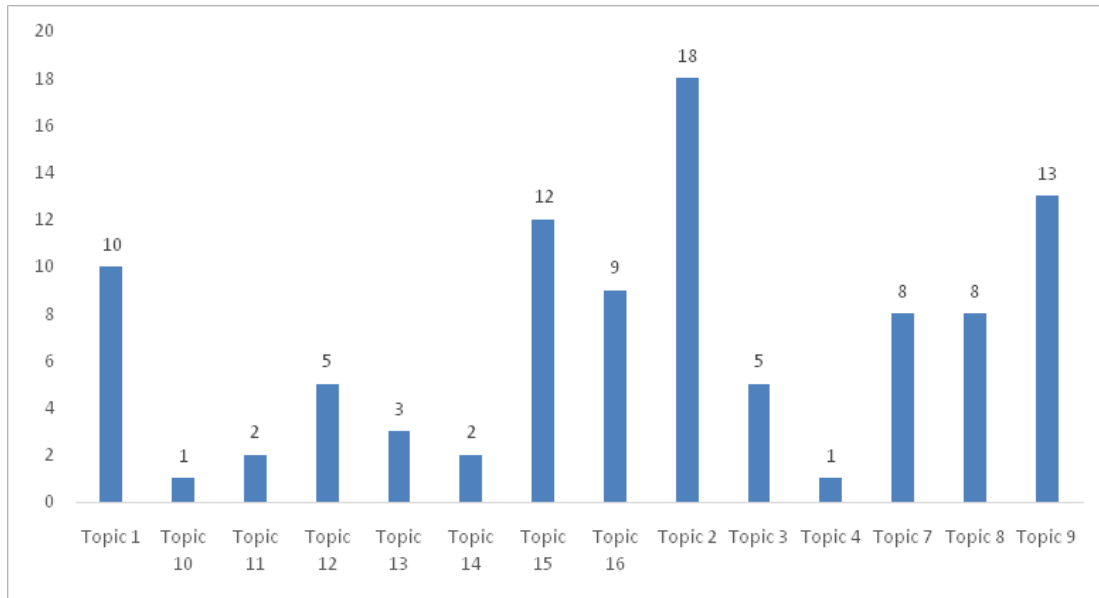


MACEDONIAN TELEVISION FIRST SERVICE

1. COVERED TOPICS

During the reporting period, the Macedonian Television broadcast 94 news reports in total, which referred to political entities, states and processes on its first programme service. In the prime time journal on MTV1 a wider repertoire of topics was represented and none of them exceeded 20 percent of the total number of reports. The highest number of reports that were

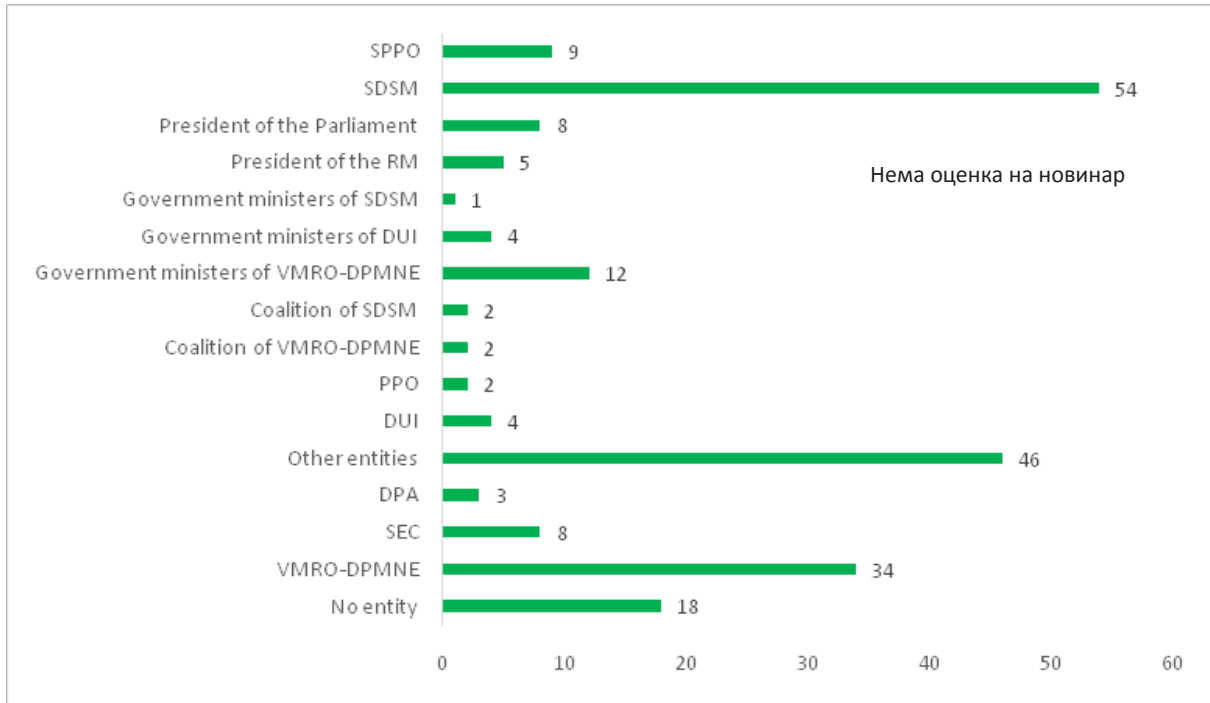
aired referred to pre-election activities of political parties (18), the 25th anniversary of independence (13), as well as the work of the institutions (12), the preparation of the elections and the problematic electoral unit 6 (10), the consequences from the flooding and the work of the SPPO (8 each), the state of the economy (5), Government projects and measures (3) and other topics.



Number of reports on MTV1, shown in relation to the different topics (September 5 - 9 and 11 - 16)

Topic 1	Organizing early parliamentary elections (preparation of the voters' registry, the issue with the exceedingly high number of voters in the sixth electoral unit, etc.)
Topic 2	Pre-election activities of political parties (all activities involving announcements, promises and reactions to them)
Topic 3	Promotion of Government projects and measures (the measures, most often in agriculture, were promoted by Government representatives from VMRO-DPMNE)
Topic 4	Government projects and measures that promote political parties and leaders
Topic 5	Pre-election promises of Government representatives
Topic 6	Other activities of Government representatives
Topic 7	The work of the Special Public Prosecutor's Office (including other topics related to SPPO, as waiting for the Constitutional Court to give a statement about its constitutionality)
Topic 8	Dealing with the consequences from the flooding in August (including Parliamentary sessions on this topic)
Topic 9	Marking 25 years since Macedonia declared independence (including the analytical stories about how much the country has progressed)
Topic 10	Honoring Mother Teresa
Topic 11	Zoran Zaev's announcement for expanded use of Albanian language
Topic 12	The state of the economy (state debt to the business sector, unemployment statistics, budget preparations)
Topic 13	Borrowing and public debt
Topic 14	The media and the work of the media
Topic 15	The work of the institutions
Topic 16	Other topics

2. POLITICAL ENTITIES



Number of reports and manner of framing of political entities (September 5 - 9 and 11 - 16)

The most common entity in the news was the party SDSM, in 54 reports (57 with the ministers and the coalition). VMRO-DPMNE were represented in 34 reports, or 48 in total, along with those including party officials and coalition partners. In 46 reports non-categorized entities were represented, including public enterprises, state services, the Economic Chamber, civil organizations, smaller parties (Levica, Dostoinstvo, DS), organizations of the

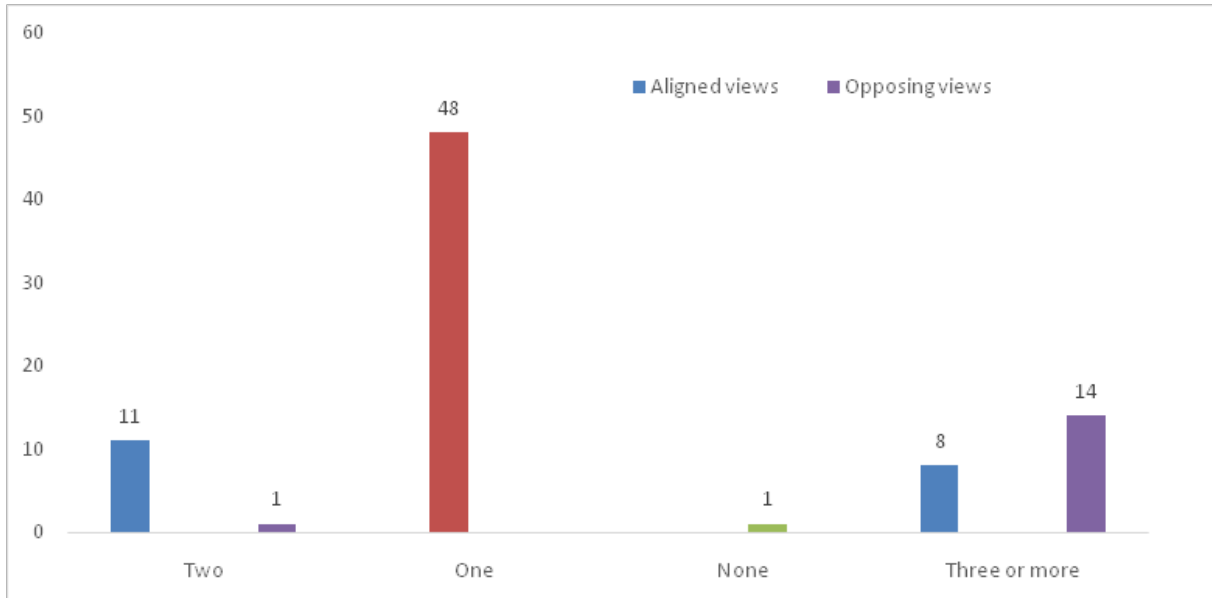
diaspora, the European Union, etc. The Special Public Prosecutor's Office was present in nine reports, and their activities were reported at the beginning of the news.

MTV1 kept up with current events and reported them according to their significance, without any partiality or disregard of political entities. The TV station broadcast full and comprehensive information about the events, without going into deeper analyses or providing critical insight.

3. USING SOURCES

For most of the reports (48) on MTV, only one source was used. The opposing views in some cases were presented with consecutive reports on the same topic. This was the case when reactions from the opposition on various events were shown (election of judges, the project

'Macedonia Providing Employment', September 5th), or when institutions or the ruling party had reactions to SDSM's activities. Only one of the 12 reports where two sources were used contained opposing views, however this was more common in the reports that had three or more sources.



Using sources in the news on MTV1 (September 5 - 9 and 11 - 16)