



ИЗВЕШТАЈ ОД СЛЕДЕЊЕТО НА МЕДИУМСКИТЕ СОДРЖИНИ

16 април - 7 мај 2016



Detailed Analysis
based on the monitoring of media content through the Rapid Response Media Mechanism
of the Institute of Communication Studies
(time-frame: 16th April – 7th May 2016)

2. Macedonian Television – Second Channel

(1) First week (16 – 22 April 2016)

The second channel of the Macedonian Radio Television broadcasted 70 reports on the political entities, including 31 reports on the protests against the presidential pardon, 7 reports on the elections, 6 reports on the Special Public Prosecutor's Office, 5 reports on the media, and other topics. There are 7 reports on activities of DUI, as well as two positive and one critical report on the Government.

Commentaries and opinions in the news: The television broadcaster covered the protests against the presidential pardon and the crisis in country created thereby (April 18th: “Protests against the decision of Ivanov and against the holding of the election on June 5th”, “The president’s office in Tetovo ransacked”), and the reactions to the pardon (April 18th: “Ivanov’s decision was condemned by the non-parliamentary parties”) as well as the messages from the international community (April 19th: “Implement the Przino Agreement, there will be no new agreement in Vienna, said Kocijancic”). The development of the events is covered (April 19th: “The protests in Skopje continue”, “The analysts expect postponement of the elections”). The position of SDSM to go to Vienna provided the pardon and the decision for holding the elections on June 5th are reversed, as well as the reaction of the ambassadors were covered in the same manner (April 20th: “The presidential pardon will deepen the crisis”). The events are not covered only informatively, but also analytically (April 20th: “Analysts believe that the United States should have a key role in solving the crisis”). The reports conveyed the mutual accusations of the failure to hold a meeting in Vienna between the parties, especially between VMRO-DPMNE and SDSM, but also the view of DPA that it jeopardises the integration, and of the smaller parties that “Ivanov overthrew SPPO and the institutions”. The rallies of the movement “Protestiram” and the association “GDOM” were covered simultaneously. Space continues to be provided to the international messages about the situation in Macedonia (April 22nd: “The situation is very serious, said Kocijancic after the failure of the meeting in Vienna”), as well as the expert views trying to offer solutions (April 22nd: “Experts seek to convene an emergency session of the Assembly”). The messages of the protest of the Albanians were also broadcasted (April 22nd: “The Albanians are here today for full equality, for binational state”; “A new agreement between the Albanians and Macedonians should be signed”).

The broadcaster covered the work of the Special Public Prosecutor's Office, including both ongoing cases (April 20th, “The Transporter Case, the Secretary of the Municipality of Bitola is taken into custody”), as well as the newly opened ones (April 21th: “The TNT Case, the building Kosmos was



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demolished unlawfully”), but also the problems posed on the prosecution (April 21st, “Fetaj: Our families are being threatened, but we will not stop”).

DUI was praised through a positive report (April 18th: “A 24-hour program in Albanian on MTV and on the radio”).

Using sources: 36 reports have one source and 20 reports have two or more sources but with concurring positions of the sources and 7 with conflicting views of the sources.

Direct addresses: The leader of SDSM, Zoran Zaev, had one direct address, and so did the leaders of the smaller Albanian parties.

Audiovisual Presentation: Elements of manipulative audiovisual presentation were identified in the appearances of the leader of DUI, Ali Ahmeti, twice among the guests at the renovated baths in Debar, in the report from April 16th.

(2) Second week (23 – 28 April 2016)

MTV2 broadcasted 55 reports on the political situation in the news in the analysis period. Majority of them focused on the presidential pardon (13 reports), the protests (6 reports), the elections (10 reports), the activities of SPPO (4 reports) and the media (4 reports). Four (4) reports deal with topics of interest to the Albanian community, and two reports show favouritism to DUI. 4 reports present the positions of the opposition critical of the government.

Commentaries and opinions in the news: The television broadcaster informatively covered the events surrounding the political turmoil and the protests against the presidential pardon, and focused on the possible reactions and sanctions from the international community, and provided analytical reports on the subject: “11th day of protesting of “Protestiram”, “the US is worried about the crisis in Macedonia, Ivanov to withdraw the decision on pardon”, “there is still time to withdraw the pardon”, “sanctions against politicians” are also possible (April 23rd).

In the report “The political crisis in Macedonia is becoming an obstacle to the integration” (April 24th), the television broadcasted the statement of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. In the news from April 25th, it is also informed on the arrest of Zdravko Savevski from “Levica” and the reactions of Civil, The Student Plenum (April 28th).

Regarding the work of SPPO, the attacks from the ruling party were broadcasted “VMRO accuses the SPP of being politically oriented and adopting selective decisions”, and the response, “SDSM responds, Gruevski has a problem with independent institutions” (April 23rd).

SDSM’s accusations of the “business ties of the Ivanov Family with Panama” were also broadcasted, as well as the response from the Office of the President for a lawsuit (April 24th).

Regarding the topics of interest to the Albanian community, the demand is rebroadcasted, “Sela’s party says that the Albanians in Macedonia want a binational state” (April 24th).

Regarding the media, it analysed “the Freedom House Report on media freedom, according to which, Macedonia is holding the last place in the region”, and broadcasted expert opinions that “it was expected, given the situation in the country” (April 27th).

Using sources: 28 reports were broadcasted with 1 source and 12 reports with two or more sources, but with the concurring positions.

Direct addresses: There were no direct addresses.

Audiovisual Presentation: There was no manipulative audiovisual presentation.

(3) Third week (2 – 7 May 2016)

In the monitoring period, the second channel of the Macedonian Radio and Television broadcasted 50 reports related to the political actors, situations and processes. The coverage focused on the crisis caused by the presidential pardon (16 reports), followed by the protests (6 reports), the early elections (4 reports), the media (4 reports) and other topics. Six reports have an Albanian ethnic focus, four reports are promotional reports of the Government, but two are critical of the Government.

Commentaries and opinions in the news: The television broadcaster neutrally and critically covered the events surrounding the political crisis (May 2nd: “Has Ivanov gone too far with the pardon”). The headlines of the foreign press are also conveyed (May 2nd: “Macedonia is spinning between the West and the East”). The statements of the political actors are regularly broadcasted (May 3rd, “Zaev will not relent, we demand annulment of the presidential pardon, says Zaev”). The television has an equal approach to the protest rallies (May 4th: “Protests: The civil society will carry on with the Colorful Revolution”) as well as to the views of the international representatives (May 5th, “Orav said that the President should withdraw the pardon”).

The information that the protests of the civil society will continue and that the demand for annulment of the presidential pardon comes from many sides, so as not to deepen the political crisis, are conveyed in the following days. The television has an analytical approach to the appointment of a special envoy to Macedonia from Germany (May 5th: “According to analysts, the intervention of Germany speaks of the gravity of the crisis”). The television also informs on the possible economic consequences (May 5th: “The crisis and its impact on the economy: Bogov says that if the crisis continues, we will feel the consequences”).

Regarding the elections, the television provides coverage of the current events (May 6th, “VMRO-DPMNE left alone, the three other parties did not submit lists of members to the electoral boards”). The television also covered the events related to the World Press Freedom Day, and also informed on the position of the organization Civil (May 3rd: “Macedonia is in media darkness”).

In terms of the topics of particular interest to Albanians, the emphasis was placed on the approaching anniversary of the Kumanovo Events (May 5th: “The people from Divo Naselje say that they want to hold a memorial march, not a protest”).

Among the critical reports on the Government, one report was broadcasted on the irregularities in the funds for agriculture, on May 7th.

Using sources: 18 reports use one source, 15 reports use two or more sources, but with concurring views, and 10 reports use two or more different and opposing sources.

Direct addresses: The television broadcasted one direct address from the leader of SDSM, Zoran Zaev.

Audiovisual Presentation: A manipulative audiovisual presentation was detected in the headlines from May 5th presenting a zoomed image of Ahmeti holding a speech on the occasion of “May 5th, the day of the fallen heroes”, even though the report does not mention his name and provides general information on the holiday.