

PERMANENT SECRETARIAT

## THE REPORT OF THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BLACK SEA BROADCASTING REGULATORY AUTHORITIES FORUM (BRAF)

## 14-16 April 2025 Baku, Azerbaijan

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Black Sea Broadcasting Regulatory Authorities Forum (BRAF) was held in Baku, Azerbaijan on the 14<sup>th</sup>- 16<sup>th</sup> of April 2025.

The representatives of BRAF Member Authorities, namely the **Albanian** Audiovisual Media Authority, **Azerbaijani** Audiovisual Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan, **Bulgarian** Council for Electronic Media, **Georgian** National Communications Commission, **Greek** National Council for Radio and Television, **Moldovan** Audiovisual Council, **Romanian** National Audiovisual Council, **Serbian** Regulatory Authority for Electronic Media and **Turkish** Radio and Television Supreme Council, participated in the Meeting.

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of BRAF was opened by Dr. Deniz GÜÇER, the Secretary General of BRAF and the Member of the Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTUK), following the approval of the Agenda. The Program including agenda, as approved, is attached as appendix. Thereafter, the Chair of the Host Authority, the Audiovisual Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Mr. Ismat Sattarov gave a speech, emphasizing the importance of the Meeting and welcomed all participated Member Authorities.

During the opening speeches ceremony, BRAF Secretary General Dr. GÜÇER stated that the Annual Meetings serve as a significant platform not only for the evaluation of the current situation, but also for developing strategies for future steps, strengthening the regional cooperation and making regulatory processes more efficient in the region.

Afterwards, H.E. Ambassador Dr. Merve Safa KAVAKCI - First Deputy Secretary General of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC) Permanent International Secretariat (PERMIS), expressed her appreciation about the effective functioning of BRAF having a Sectoral Dialogue Partnership status within BSEC.

A brief revision of the 10<sup>th</sup> BRAF Annual Meeting, which was held in Antalya, Türkiye on 18<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023, was presented by the BRAF Permanent Secretariat. The presentation was comprised of the work done in general and particularly the Workshop on Disinformation and Digital Media Literacy, and the main theme of the last Annual Meeting, which was "Licensing Challenges in the Digital Age".

Mr. Taleh Guliyev, Head of the Communication Division of Audiovisual Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan, presented the audiovisual media landscape of Azerbaijan, and informed the participants about the history of, and legal and institutional developments in audiovisual sector.



The representatives of the broadcasting regulatory authorities of the participated countries made presentations, provided information and exchanged views regarding the progress and objectives achieved in the broadcasting sector in their countries, since the previous Annual Meeting of BRAF, as a part of their Country Reports.

During the meeting, it was decided that the Presidency of the BRAF for 2025 was unanimously decided to hand over to the Albanian Audiovisual Media Authority.

The meeting continued in the afternoon with two panel sessions on the topics of "Legal framework for protection of children and its effective implementation" and "The role of media literacy and parental control in protection of children" respectively under the main theme of "Protection of Children in Media Services".

Before the panels, Mr. Hashim Alimammadzada, Advisor to the Chair of Audiovisual Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan, made a presentation on "Protection of Children & ACRA". During the sessions, the panelists and participants had vivid discussions and exchanged their opinions and experiences in relation to national practices by referring to the similarities and discrepancies in terms of regulations in their countries as well as stressing the need for further cooperation among stakeholders. The presentations and the relevant data shall be available at the BRAF website "http://www.braf.info".

The delegations expressed their sincere gratitude to the Audiovisual Council of the Republic of Azerbaijan for the warm and generous hospitality and the excellent organization of the Meeting in the historical and beautiful city Baku.