

Pursuant to Articles 12 and 68 of the Broadcasting Law ("Official Gazette of the RS" nos. 42/02, 97/04, 76/05, 79/05 - oth. law, 62/06 and 85/06) and based on the proposal of the Council Ethics Committee formed in accordance with provision of Article 46 of the RBA Statute ("Official Gazette of the RS" no. 102/05), the Council of the Republic Broadcasting Agency hereby passes the following

**RECOMMENDATION**  
**to commercial radio and television stations (broadcasters) to refrain from**  
**broadcasting certain uncategorised programmes**

The Council hereby recommends to radio and television stations (broadcasters) not to broadcast programmes based on fortune-telling, horoscope reading and similar contents that may not be categorised in any activity stipulated and regulated by the law. Since there are well grounded indications that this type of programme is based on the abuse of viewers' credulity and on certain type of financial abuse arising from viewers' lack of information (which is regulated by Article 68 para 6 of the Broadcasting Law), the Council hereby recommends broadcasters to remove this type of programme from their programme scheme.

The Council also recommends to radio and television stations not to broadcast programmes consisting exclusively or predominantly of SMS messages. Broadcasting SMS messages with contents that do not violate legal and ethical standards of conduct in public area shall be allowed if the messages are broadcast by means of running letters (scrolling text) as an additional programme content or as a reaction of viewers to broadcast contents. The programmes that consist exclusively or predominantly of such messages do not belong to the activity stipulated by the law and the Council therefore recommends to radio and television stations to exclude this type of programme. If they are broadcast as an additional programme content or as a reaction to broadcast programme, the broadcasters' editors in chief shall be responsible for the contents of these messages.

Given that public tenders for issuing programme broadcasting licences at regional and local levels have not been completed yet, the Council hereby emphasises that observance of this recommendation will be one of the criteria when issuing licences.

Belgrade,  
6 March 2007

Republic Broadcasting Agency  
Council President  
Nenad Cekić, PhD