

**DIRETTIVA TAL-AWTORITÀ TAX-XANDIR
DWAR PROGRAMMI U REKLAMI MXANDRA FUQ
RADJU U TELEVIŻJONI
MATUL IL-PERIJODU
28 TA' FRAR SAS-26 TA' MARZU 2022**

Bis-saħħa tas-setgħat mogħtija lilha bl-artikli 15 u 23 tal-Att dwar ix-Xandir, l-Awtorità tax-Xandir qed toħroġ din id-direttiva għall-perijodu 28 ta' Frar sas-26 ta' Marzu 2022.

Isem u dħul fis-seħħ

1. (1) Din id-Direttiva tirrigwardja programmi u reklami u għaldaqstant tissejjaħ id-Direttiva tal-Awtorità tax-Xandir dwar Programmi u Reklami mxandra matul il-perijodu 28 ta' Frar sas-26 ta' Marzu 2022

(2) Din id-Direttiva tibda sseħħ minn nhar it-Tnejn 28 ta' Frar 2022.

Tifsir

2. (1) Għall-għanijiet ta' din id-Direttiva:

“l-Att” ifisser l-Att dwar ix-Xandir;

“l-Awtorità” tfisser l-Awtorità tax-Xandir imwaqqfa bl-Artiklu 118 tal-Kostituzzjoni;

“Direttiva” tfisser id-Direttiva tal-Awtorità tax-Xandir dwar Programmi u Reklami mxandra matul il-perijodu 28 ta' Frar sas-26 ta' Marzu 2022.

“elezzjoni/ijiet” tfisser l-Elezzjoni Ġenerali 2022 li ser tinżamm nhar is-Sibt, 26 ta' Marzu 2022;

“kandidat” tfisser kandidat għall-Elezzjoni Ġenerali 2022;

“programmi” tinkludi kull ġeneru ta' programm sew jekk ta' diskussjoni, ġrajjet kurrenti jew generi oħra u tirreferi kemm għall-programmi mxandra fuq it-televiżjoni u/jew fuq ir-radju.

“reklami” tfisser spot informattiv fuq policy kurrenti jew reklam li jkollu kontenut ta' natura politika jew jirreferi għall-kandidati politiċi. Jinkludi wkoll spots imħejja minn NGOs li jittrattaw temi kurrenti u kontroversjali.

**BROADCASTING AUTHORITY DIRECTIVE
ON PROGRAMMES AND ADVERTISEMENTS
BROADCAST ON TELEVISION AND RADIO STATIONS
DURING THE PERIOD
28TH FEBRUARY TILL 26TH MARCH 2022**

In exercise of the powers conferred by articles 15 and 23 of the Broadcasting Act, the Broadcasting Authority is issuing the following directive for the period 28th February until 26th March 2022

Citation and entry into force

1. (1) The title of this Directive is the Broadcasting Authority Directive on Programmes and Advertisements broadcast during the period 28th February until 26th March 2022.

(2) This Directive shall come into force on Monday 28th February 2022.

Interpretation

2. (1) For the purposes of this Directive:

“the Act” means the Broadcasting Act;

“Authority” means the Broadcasting Authority established by article 118 of the Constitution;

“Directive” means the Broadcasting Authority Directive on Programmes and Advertisements broadcast during the period 28th February until 26th March 2022.

“elections” means the General Elections 2022 to be held on Saturday, 26th March 2022;

“candidate” means a candidate for the General Elections 2022;

“programmes” include all types of programme genres, be it discussion, current affairs or other genre and also refers to programmes broadcast either on television and/or on radio.

“advertisements” mean an informative spot on public current policy or an advertisement of a political nature or which refers to political candidates. It also includes spots produced by NGOs which refers to current and controversial matter.

“Bulletini tal-aħbarijiet” jinkludi wkoll aġġornamenti tal-aħbarijiet u edizzjonijiet speċjali.

“News bulletins” include updates and special editions.

Kull referenza għall-maskil tinkludi l-femminil.

Reference to masculine should also be taken to apply to the feminine.

(2) Il-kliem u l-frażijiet użati f’din id-Direttiva jfissru l-istess bħal dak li ngħatalhom fl-Att.

(2) Words and phrases used in this Directive shall have the same meaning as is assigned to them in the Act.

Għoti ta’ Skedi ta’ Programmi lill-Awtorità

Provision of Programme Schedules to the Authority

3. (1) Mhux aktar tard minn nofsinhar ta’ nhar il-Ħadd 27 ta’ Frar, kull stazzjon tax-xandir irid jagħti lill-Awtorità skeda dettaljata tal-programmi u reklami biex tiġi approvata mill-Awtorità. Din l-iskeda trid tkopri l-perjodu 28 ta’ Frar sas-26 ta’ Marzu 2022. Fejn l-istazzjon ikun bi ħsiebu li jxandar programmi ta’ ġrajjet kurrenti, programmi ta’ diskussjoni, programmi ta’ ġurnalizmu investigattiv, programmi oħra li jinkludu mistiedna sabiex jagħtu opinjonijiet dwar ġrajjet kurrenti u programmi ta’ natura simili għal dawn waqt il-perjodu hawn fuq imsemmi, irid jibgħat lill-Awtorità s-suġġett ta’ dak il-programm u dettalji dwar min ser jieħu sehem fih bid-dettalji kollha tal-preżentatur, parteċipanti u l-produttur biex l-Awtorità tkun tista’ tagħti l-approvazzjoni tagħha. L-istess informazzjoni trid tintbagħat għall-programmi ta’ ġeneri oħra li fihom jipparteċipaw kandidati. Dan jgħodd ukoll għall-parteeċipazzjoni tal-Membri Parlamentari Ewropej. Minbarra skeda dettaljata, l-istazzjon għandu jipprovdi wkoll *ir-running order* li jagħti dawl tal-kontenut tal-programm. Jekk l-istazzjon jonqos milli jgħaddi dak mitlub fil-ħin, l-istazzjon jiġi meqjus li qed jikser Artiklu 15 tal-Att. F’każ ta’ ksur sussegwenti, il-penali tiżdied kif maħsub f’Paragrafu 3 tal-Ħames Skeda.

3. (1) Not later than noon of Sunday 27th February, each broadcasting station shall provide the Authority with a detailed schedule of programmes and advertisements for the Authority’s approval. This schedule shall cover the period 28th February till 26th March 2022. Where the broadcasting station intends to produce current affairs programmes, discussion programmes, investigative journalism programmes, other programmes which include guests who air opinions on current affairs and programmes of a similar nature during the aforesaid period, it shall forward the subject of that programme and details of the participants in that programme containing details of the presenter, participants and producer to the Authority for its approval. The said information shall be submitted for other programme genres in which candidates participate. This should also include the participation of member of the European Parliament. Apart from a detailed schedule, the station is obliged to provide a running order of the programme to shed light on the programme content itself. If the station fails to provide the requested information, the station will be considered as not adhering to Article 15 of the Act. In case of subsequent violations, Paragraph 3 of the Fifth Schedule will be administered.

(2) Wara li l-Awtorità tapprova din l-iskeda ta’ programmi, l-istazzjon tax-xandir ma jkunx jista’ jagħmel bidliet fl-iskeda msemmiha ħlief eċċezzjonalment, wara li jitlob għal dan bil-kitba u jagħti d-dettalji kollha meħtieġa u bl-approvazzjoni tal-Awtorità. Din it-talba għal tibdil fl-iskeda ta’ programmi trid tasal għand l-Awtorità mhux anqas minn tliet ijiem kontinwi utli qabel id-data tal-bidla proposta u trid issir skont il-formola annessa. L-Awtorità tirriżerva d-dritt li ma tapprovax tibdil għall-perijodu 21 ta’ Marzu sal-24 ta’ Marzu 2022.

(2) Following the Authority’s approval of this programme schedule, no changes may be made by a broadcasting station to the said schedule. Exceptionally, with the prior approval of the Authority and following a written detailed request by a broadcasting station to that effect, a broadcasting station may request the Authority’s approval to change its programme schedule. Such request must reach the Authority by not later than three days running prior to the date of the proposed change and shall be drawn up in terms of the attached form. The Authority

reserves the right not to approve any changes for the period 21st March till 24th March 2022.

(3) L-ebda produzzjoni jew programm jew reklam b'xejra politika ma jista' jixxandar minn stazzjon tax-xandir qabel ma tinghata l-approvazzjoni mill-Awtorità msemija fil-paragrafi (1) u (2) ta' dan l-artiklu sakemm dan ma jkunx parti fi skema approvata mill-Awtorità. Sakemm tiġi approvata l-bidla mitluba fl-iskeda ta' programmi mill-Awtorità, l-istazzjon tax-xandir ma jistax ixandar kontenut li jkun għadu ma ġie approvati. M'għandux ixandar materjal promozzjonali dwar il-programmi li jkunu qed jiġu proposti li jixxandru mill-istazzjon in kwistjoni.

L-ebda programm jew reklam ma jista' jinkoraġixxi lill-poplu li jivvota b'mod partikolari. Għandha tinghata attenzjoni biex jiġi żgurat illi l-programmi kollha u r-reklamar kollu ma jkunx fihom materjal li jista' jiġi interpretat li qed jiffavorixxi jew li qed jagħti *exposure* mhux f'waqtu lil xi partit politiku jew kandidat jew li jista' raġonevolment jitqies li huwa mmirat lejn għan politiku. Għalhekk, b'mod partikolari, ma jkunx aċċettabbli:

(i) li fil-każ ta' reklami mtella' minn entitajiet pubbliċi jew entitajiet oħra, jidhru persuni li jkunu ressqi jew ikunu bi f'isiebhom iressqu l-kandidatura tagħhom għal dawn l-elezzjonijiet, anki meta l-istess reklam ma jkunx jitqies bħala reklam politiku għall-fini ta' l-Att dwar ix-Xandir;

(ii) lanqas ma jistgħu jixxandru avviz/spot informattivi mtella' minn entitajiet pubbliċi, inkluż *Public Service Announcements*, sakemm dawn ma jkunux ta' interess ġenerali u/jew ta' natura urgenti mingħajr l-approvazzjoni tal-Awtorità;

(iii) li programm imsemmi fis-subartikolu (1) ta' dan l-artikolu jiġi pprezentat minn persuna li tkun ressqet jew bi f'isiebha tressaq il-kandidatura tagħha għal dawn l-elezzjonijiet sakemm din il-persuna ma tkunx impjegata regolari mal-istazzjon li jkun qed ixandar il-programm. F'każijiet bħal dawn l-Awtorità żżomm id-dritt li titlob prova li dik il-persuna hija impjegata b'mod *full-time* mal-istazzjon.

(iv) li persuna li tkun ressqet jew bi f'isiebha tressaq il-kandidatura tagħha għal dawn l-elezzjonijiet tipparteċipa b'mod regolari fl-istess

(3) Until such approval as mentioned in paragraphs (1) and (2) of this article is obtained, no programme or advertisement with a political content may be broadcast by a broadcasting station unless it is within a scheme approved by the Authority. A broadcasting station shall not air any promotional material concerning programmes which the broadcasting station in question intends to air unless the Authority approves the requested change in the programme schedule.

Nor may any such programme or advertisement encourage people to vote in a particular way. Care should be taken to ensure that all programmes and all advertisements are free of material, which could be interpreted as favouring or giving undue exposure to any political party or candidate, or which might be reasonably considered as being directed towards a political end. In particular, therefore, it shall not be permissible:

i) in the case of advertisements commissioned by public entities or other entities, to allow persons who have submitted or intend to submit their candidature for these elections to appear in such advertisements, even when the said advertisement cannot be considered to be a political advertisement for the purposes of the Broadcasting Act;

ii) no informative spot/announcement produced by public entities, including Public Service Announcements, can be broadcast unless such spots/announcements are of general interest and/pr of urgent matter and are approved by the Broadcasting Authority.

iii) that a programme mentioned in subarticle (1) of this article is presented by a person who has submitted or who intends to submit his or her candidature for these elections when such person is not a regular employee of the station broadcasting such programme; In such instances, the Authority reserves the right to ask for proof of the employee's full-time employment status.

iv) that a person who has submitted or intends to submit his or her candidature for these elections participates in a regular manner

programm matul dan il-perijodu. Għall-fini ta' dan il-paragrafu, kandidat/a j/titqis li huwa/hija pparteċipa/t b'mod regolari meta j/tipparteċipa f'aktar minn żewġ edizzjonijiet tal-istess programm matul il-perijodu ta' bejn it-28 ta' Frar u s-26 ta' Marzu 2022 anka jekk jagħmel/tagħmel hekk fil-vesti professjonali jew personali tiegħu/tagħha. Dan ma jinkludix coverage fil-bullettini tal-añbarijiet, parteċipazzjoni fi programmi ta' ġrajjet kurrenti u diskussjoni politika u parteċipazzjoni fil-produzzjonijiet tal-partiti/fid-dibattiti fl-iskema ta' xandiriet politiċi li għandha tiġi mtellgħa mill-Awtorità tax-Xandir. Għandu jiġi ċċarat, għall-iskop ta' dan is-sub-artiklu, li l-Awtorità qed tiriserva d-dritt li ma tapprovax programmi li jkunu ġew proposti meta jkun jidher li l-iskop prinċipali ta' dawn il-programmi jkun li jippromovi kandidati li diġà jkunu se jidhru fi programmi oħra fl-iskeda proposta mill-istess stazzjon.

in the same programme during the said period. For the purposes of this paragraph, a candidate shall be considered to have participated regularly when s/he participates in more than two editions of the same programme during the period between 28th February and 26th March 2022 even if he/she features in his/her professional or personal capacity. This does not include coverage in news bulletins but includes interviews with candidates on matters that have no bearing on the news items being covered, participation in current affairs programmes and political discussions and participation in the party productions/debate in the scheme of political broadcasts to be organised by the Broadcasting Authority. It should also be made clear, for the purpose of this sub-article, that the Authority reserves the right not to approve proposed programmes where it appears that these are primarily intended to provide exposure to candidates who already feature in other programmes in the schedule proposed by the same station.

Għal finijiet ta' dan l-artiklu, intervista/*feature*/kummentarju minn jew ma' kandidat prospettiv li tittella' biss sabiex tingħata prominenza lil tali kandidat u li ma jkollhiex rabta ma' attivita'/stqarrija/añbar ma tistax tixxandar.

An interview/feature or commentary with or by a prospective candidate broadcast solely to give prominence to the candidate and which has no bearing on an event/statement/news item, cannot be broadcast.

Barra minn hekk;

Furthermore'

(v) li persuna li tkun ressqet jew bi ñsiebha tressaq il-kandidatura tagħha għal dawn l-elezzjonijiet tidher f'sigla tal-ftuħ jew egħluq ta' programm

v) that a person who has submitted or intends to submit his or her candidature for these elections features in the opening or closing of a programme

(vi) kull stazzjon għandu jara li f'xandiriet ta' avvenimenti nazzjonali jew popolari ma tiġix inkluzja parteċipazzjoni ta' politiċi jew kandidati li se jikkontestaw din l-elezzjoni li t-turija tagħhom tista' tiġi interpretat li se tagħti vantaġġ lil xi partit politiku jew kandidatura

vi) During the transmissions of national or popular events, the stations should not include any participation of politicians and candidates who will be contesting this election and which their exposure might be considered to give an advantage to a political party or candidature

(4) Kull programm li jkollu x'jaqsam ma' xi materja ta' kontroversja politika jew industrijali jew li jirreferi għall-*policy* pubblika kurrenti li jixxandar matul il-perijodu tat-28 ta' Frar u s-26 ta' Marzu 2022 jrid ikun bilanċjat. Fi programmi ta' din ix-xorta jeħtieġ li jiddaħħlu firxa wiesgħa ta' opinjonijiet dwar is-suġġett li jkun qed jiġi diskuss.

(4) All programmes which concern any aspect of a political or an industrial controversy or which refer to current public policy which are broadcast with effect from 28th February till 26th March 2022 have to be balanced. This requires that in such programmes all diverse opinions on the subject under consideration have to be included.

(5) Fil-każ tas-subartikolu (4) t'hawn fuq, l-Awtorità tista' tapprova skedi ta' programmi proposti minn stazzjonijiet tax-xandir wara li tkun sodisfatta li dan jaqbel ma' dak li hemm provdud f'Artiklu 119 tal-Kostituzzjoni. L-Awtorità għandha tara, b'mod partikolari, li fejn għandu x'jaqsam mal-għażla tas-suġġetti u ta' dawk li jkunu ser jieħdu sehem, l-istazzjonijiet jimxu ma' dak li hemm maħsub fis-sub-artiklu msemmi.

(6) Għall-fini ta' din id-direttiva "natura politika" jew "xejra politika" jfissru opinjoni kontroversjali marbuta fil-qofol tagħha mas-soċjetà moderna li tkun fil-qalba ta' dibattitu politiku u tinkludi wkoll il-kampanja għall-Elezzjoni Ġenerali.

(7) Waqt li l-Awtorità, b'konformità mal-liġi, tinsisti fuq iż-żamma ta' bilanċ u imparzjalità, l-Awtorità tifhem ukoll li jkun prattiku u fl-istess ħin konformi mal-liġi li l-kontenut tal-programmi skont l-iskedi sottomessi lilha fuq l-istazzjonijiet politiċi jitqies fid-dawl tad-disposizzjoni fakoltattiva mogħtija lill-Awtorità skont l-Artikolu 13(2) tal-Att dwar ix-Xandir. Dan t'hawn fuq m'għandux jiġi interpretat bħala li l-istazzjonijiet tal-partiti politiċi mhumiex marbuta li josservaw il-liġi. Għall-fini ta' dan is-sub-artikolu, l-istazzjonijiet tal-partiti politiċi huma: *ONE Radio, Net FM, ONE u NET TV*.

Firxa ta' veduti u opinjonijiet fil-bulettini tal-aħbarijiet u fi programmi ta' ġrajjet kurrenti

4. (1) L-istazzjonijiet iridu jaraw partikolarment fl-aħbarijiet u fi programmi ta' ġrajjet kurrenti li jkun hemm firxa wiesgħa ta' opinjonijiet mill-partiti politiċi kollha u jiġu inklużi wkoll kandidati indipendenti li se jkunu qed jikkontestaw dawn l-elezzjonijiet ġenerali biex iwasslu għal rappreżentazzjoni ġusta fix-xandir. Fl-iskeda ta' programmar ta' dawn it-tip ta' programmi jridu jaraw li b'xi mod jew ieħor l-exposure ta' dawn il-veduti jkunu ġew ippreżentati lill-elettorat b'mod ġust. Dan kollu irid jitqies fid-dawl tad-dispożizzjonijiet fakultattivi ta' Artiklu 13 (2) tal-Att dwar ix-Xandir.

Applikazzjoni tal-Kodiċi għall-Investigazzjoni u d-Determinazzjoni tal-Ilmenti

5. (1) Dawn it-tibdiliet għandhom japplikaw matul il-perijodu 28 ta' Frar sas-26 ta' Marzu 2022 għall-Kodiċi għall-Investigazzjoni u d-Determinazzjoni ta' l-Ilmenti:

(5) In the case of sub-article (4) above, the Authority may approve programme schedules proposed by broadcasting stations after it is satisfied that the provisions of article 119 of the Constitution will be complied with. The Authority shall, in particular, ensure compliance with the said provision in so far as choice of subjects and participants are concerned.

(6) For the purposes of this directive "political nature" or "political content" mean a controversial opinion pertaining to modern society in general which lies at the heart of a political debate and includes campaigning for the General Election.

(7) Whilst the Authority, in accordance with the law, insists on safeguarding balance and impartiality, it also recognises that it would be practical and at the same time in conformity with the law that the programme content in terms of the schedules submitted to it by the political stations is considered in the light of the optional provision which may be exercised by the Authority in terms of article 13(2) of the Broadcasting Act. The above shall not be interpreted that political stations are not bound to observe the provisions of the law. For the purposes of this sub-article, the political stations are ONE Radio, Net FM, ONE and NET TV.

Different views and opinions in news bulletins and in current affairs programmes

4 (1) The broadcasting stations need include a wide range of opinions from different political parties and independent candidates in news and current affairs programmes. This would lead to a fair representation in broadcasting. In the programme schedules they need to include such content so as to present a wider view of all those who will be contesting the General Election. This should be tackled in view of the facultative disposition of Article 13 (2) of the Broadcasting Act.

Application of the Code for the Investigation and Determination of Complaints

5 (1) The following modifications shall apply with effect from 28th February to 26th March 2022 to the Code for the Investigation and Determination of Complaints:

- (i) l-ilmenti jkunu indirizzati lill-Awtorità u mhux lill-istazzjonijiet tax-xandir;
 - (ii) l-Awtorità tista' titlob spjega mill-istazzjon tax-xandir dwar l-ilment imsemmi skont kemm t'hoos hi li din tkun meħtieġa għall-każ;
 - (iii) kull spjega jew tagħrif bħal dan irid jingħata lill-Awtorità mill-istazzjon tax-xandir mhux aktar tard minn nofsinhar tal-għada jew qabel, skont kif tordna l-Awtorità.
- i) complaints shall be addressed directly to the Authority and not to broadcasting stations;
 - ii) in so far as the Authority may deem necessary, the Authority may require an explanation from the broadcasting station mentioned in the said complaint;
 - iii) any information or explanation required by the Authority as aforesaid shall be provided to the Authority by the broadcasting station not later than noon of the following day or earlier as the Authority may direct.

Regolamenti li l-istazzjonijiet tax-xandir iridu jobdu matul il-ġurnata qabel l-elezzjoni u dakinhar tal-votazzjoni

6. (1) Matul il-jum qabel l-elezzjoni u dakinhar tal-votazzjoni (minn issa 'l quddiem magħruf bħala "il-kampanja ta' żmien is-skiet"), ma jista' jsir ebda xorta ta' xandir li b'xi mod jista' jinfluwenza l-votanti.

(2) Bla ebda preġudizzju għas-sub-artiklu (1) ta' dan l-artiklu, matul il-kampanja ta' żmien is-skiet ser jidhru fis-seħħ dawn ir-regolamenti:

- (i) għandhom jiġu evitati sitwazzjonijiet minn stazzjonijiet tax-xandir li matul il-perjodu ta' żmien is-skiet ikunu trasmessi programmi li jistgħu raġonevolment jiġu interpretati li qed jixxandru bil-ħsieb li jinfluwenzaw il-votanti;
- (ii) trid tiegħaf kull xorta ta' preżentazzjoni politika, tal-partiti politiċi, kunsilli lokali, kandidati u organizzazzjonijiet oħra li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-elezzjonijiet;
- (iii) l-istazzjonijiet tax-xandir ma jxandru tagħrif, dikjarazzjonijiet, stqarrijiet tal-gvern lill-istampa u lix-xandir, kif ukoll dawk tal-oppożizzjoni, tal-kandidati, tal-politiċi, tal-partiti politiċi, ta' kunsilli lokali u ta' organizzazzjonijiet u movimenti li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-elezzjonijiet, u kull xorta ta' xandir ieħor li bil-miftuħ jew bil-moħbi għandu natura politika, għandu kontenut politiku jew li tista' b'xi mod tinfluwenza d-deċiżjoni tal-votanti. Lanqas ma jistgħu jixxandru reklami informattivi mtellgħa minn entitajiet pubbliċi, inkluż *Public Service Announcements*, sakemm dawn ma jkunux ta' interess ġenerali u ta' natura urġenti;

Regulations to be observed by broadcasting stations during the day preceding the elections and on the actual day of polling

5. (1) During the day preceding the election and on the actual day of polling during the elections (hereinafter referred to as "the campaign silence period"), all forms of broadcasting which might influence voters shall be prohibited.

(2) Without prejudice to sub-article (1) of this article, during the campaign silence period the following rules shall apply:

- i) broadcasting stations shall avoid a situation where during the silence period they broadcast programmes which could be reasonably interpreted that they are broadcasting with a view to influence voters;
- ii) all forms of presentation on the broadcasting media of political parties, candidates, local councils and other movements and organizations involved in the elections shall cease;
- iii) broadcasting stations shall not broadcast information, statements, press and media releases issued by the government, the opposition, candidates, politicians, political parties, local councils and other movements and organisations involved in the elections, and other forms of broadcasting which are, openly or in a covert manner, of a political nature, have political content or which may influence the decisions of the voters. Nor may informative advertisements commissioned by public entities, including public service announcements be broadcast unless these are of public interest and of an urgent nature;

- (iv) dan li ġej ma jistax isir:
- propaganda,
 - tagħrif li għandu x'jaqşam mal-kampanja elettorali, u
 - avvizi maħsuba għall-preżentazzjoni ta' programmi, *logos*, *mottos* u simboli ta' partit politiku u ta' kandidat/a;
 - avvizi dwar kif persuna tista' tivvota
- (v) ma tistax issir kull xorta ta' preżentazzjoni fix-xandir li b'xi mod hi dwar il-kampanja elettorali (bħalma huma preżentazzjonijiet, propaganda politika, programmi ta' diskussjoni, intervisti, eċċ);
- (vi) fir-rapporti dwar il-votazzjoni u attivitajiet oħra dwar l-elezzjoni, l-istazzjonijiet jgħallaw ixandru bil-prudenza kollha tagħrif dwar fatti li jkollhom valur ta' aħbar evidenti bħal ksur li seta' sar fil-proċeduri tal-votazzjoni kif ukoll dwar xi inċidenti li jinqalgħu fil-post tal-votazzjoni jew barra u wkoll dikjarazzjonijiet uffiċjali dwar kif inhi sejra l-votazzjoni hekk kif dawn joħroġu minn ħin għall-ieħor mill-Kummissjoni Elettorali sakemm din ma tkunx aħbar maħruġa mill-partiti politiċi jew mill-kandidati nfushom jew aħbar ipprovokata jew ġenerata mill-partiti politiċi jew mill-kandidati jew għall-gwadann politiku.
- (3) Jistgħu jixxandru, dikjarazzjonijiet u stqarrijiet dwar xi inċidenti msemmija f'paragrafu (vi) ta' sub-artiklu (2) ta' dan l-artiklu li joħroġu matul il-kampanja ta' żmien is-skiet, meta jkunu għalqu l-postijiet kollha tal-votazzjoni.
- (4) Għall-għan ta' dan l-artiklu:-
- "propaganda", favur jew kontra, tinkludi kull preżentazzjoni fuq il-mezzi kollha tax-xandir ta' kandidati, simboli, sinjali u materjal propagandistiku ta' partiti politiċi u movimenti u organizzazzjonijiet li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-kampanja elettorali
- "tagħrif li għandu x'jaqşam ma' kampanja elettorali" tfisser ġabriet ta' aħbarijiet u programmi oħra li jagħtu:
- tagħrif dwar kull xorta ta' ħidma ta' propaganda li saret qabel ma waslet biex tibda l-kampanja ta' żmien is-skiet;
- iv) the following shall be prohibited:
- agitation,
 - information related to an electoral campaign, and
 - announcements designed for presentation of programmes, logos, mottos and symbols of a political party and a candidate;
 - announcements on how a person can vote
- v) all forms of media presentations concerning the electoral campaign (such as free presentations, political propaganda, discussion programmes, interviews, etc.) shall be prohibited;
- vi) it shall be allowed in the reporting on the voting and the other electoral activities for broadcasting stations to prudently report on facts of news value the possible violations of the voting procedures and on eventual incidents inside or out of the polling booths, and official statements on the voting process issued from time to time by the Electoral Commission provided that it shall not consist of a news item released by the political parties or by candidates or a news item provoked or brought about by political parties or candidates for political mileage.
- (3) Statements and releases on the eventual incidents mentioned in paragraph (vi) of sub-article (2) of this article which are issued during the campaign silence period may only be broadcast after all the polling booths are closed.
- (4) For the purposes of this article:-
- "propaganda", for and against, means all forms of media presentation related in any way to the electoral campaign. Agitation also includes all other on-air presentations of candidates, symbols, signs and other propaganda material of political parties and other organisations involved in the elections;
- "information related to an electoral campaign" means news reports and other programmes which present:
- information on any form of campaign activities that took place before the deadline for the start of the campaign silence period;

- dikjarazzjonijiet u stqarrijiet tal-partiti politiċi, kandidati, kunsilli lokali u organizzazzjonijiet u movimenti li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-elezzjoni; u anke stqarrijiet ta' membri parlamentari Ewropej jew rapporti oħra li jirrigwardjaw il-Parlament Ewropew.
- tagħrif dwar x'jagħmlu dawk li għandhom funzjoni fl-uffiċji tal-Gvern u l-uffiċjali li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-kampanja tal-elezzjoni (ftuħ ta' bini ġdid u affarijiet tal-infrastruttura, varar ta' proġetti, riżultati u kisbiet, jew bħala rapporti f'xandiriet regolari jew speċjali, eċċ.);
- statements and releases of political parties, candidates, local councils and other organisations and movements involved in the elections;
- information on the activities of the holders of Government offices and officials related to the electoral campaign (opening of new buildings and infrastructure objects, promotion of projects, results and achievements, either in the form of reports in regular or special broadcasts, etc.);

"avviżi maħsuba biex jidhru fi programmi, logos, mottos u simboli/għeliehem ta' partiti politiku, kandidat, movimenti u organizzazzjoni oħra li għandhom x'jaqsmu mal-elezzjoni" tfisser kull xorta ta' propaganda politika (avviżi, stqarrijiet, reklamar politiku, recordings jew siltiet minn xi recordings ta' ġemgħat ta' nies u deħriet oħra fil-pubbliku ta' dawk li qed jieħdu sehem fil-kampanja tal-elezzjoni).

"announcements designed for presentation of programmes, logos, mottos and symbols of a political party, candidate and other movements or organisations involved in the elections" means all forms of political propaganda (announcements, releases, political advertisements, recordings or segments of recordings of rallies and other public appearances of the participants in the electoral campaign).

(5) Mingħajr preġudizzju għal dak li jingħad fis-subartikoli preċedenti ta' dan l-artikolu, l-ebda stazzjon m'għandu jxandar materjal dwar l-elezzjoni matul il-perijodu ta' żmien is-skiet. Dan japplika għal kull programm tat-televiżjoni u radju, inkluż l-aħbarijiet u japplika kemm għall-kontenut lokali u għall-kontenut barrani.

(5) Without prejudice to the foregoing provisions of this article, no station may broadcast any material concerning the elections during the silent period. This applies to all television and radio programmes, including news bulletins and applies both to local and foreign content.

(6) F'jum il-votazzjoni hu permess li jixxandar dan li ġej:

(6) On polling day it is permissible to broadcast only the following:

- i) l-andament tal-votazzjoni, jiġifieri informazzjoni dwar kemm ivvutaw nies kif ikun ikkomunikat uffiċjalment mill-Kummissjoni Elettorali u informazzjoni dwar x'ikun qed jiġri fil-postijiet tal-votazzjoni;
- ii) kull meta jissemmew il-kandidati tal-elezzjoni, l-istazzjonijiet tal-partiti politiċi (NET TV, NET FM, ONE Radio, u ONE) għandhom isemmu l-ewwel il-kandidati tal-partit rispettiv tagħhom, imbagħad jissemmew il-kumplement tal-kandidati skond il-polza tal-vot; u l-istazzjonijiet l-oħra kollha li jagħżlu li jsemmu l-kandidati tal-elezzjoni għandhom isemmuhom fl-ordni li jidhru fih fil-polza tal-vot;

- i) the process of voting, that is, information about the number of persons who have cast their vote and information as to what is happening in the polling booths;
- ii) whenever election candidates are mentioned, stations owned by the political parties (NET TV, NET FM, ONE Radio and ONE) shall first mention the candidates of their respective party and then they shall mention the rest of the candidates as they feature on the ballot paper; and all the other stations which opt to refer to election candidates shall mention them in the order as they appear on the ballot paper;

- iii) jistgħu jidhru biss fuq l-istazzjonijiet ir-rappreżentanti tal-partiti segwenti: PL - Mexxej u żewġ Deputati Mexxejja; PN - Kap, u ż-żewġ Viċi Kapijiet; u l-Kap u d-deputat Kap tal-partiti l-oħra li jikkontestaw għal din l-elezzjoni, u kandidati indipendenti li se jikkontestaw dawn l-elezzjoni. F'każ fejn se jkun hemm kandidat wieħed li se jikkontesta f'isem partit, jista' jidher hu/hi biss. Dawn iridu jidhru biss deġen jivvutaw u jixtu l-vot. Bl-ebda mod m'għandhomx jixxandru kummenti tagħhom fuq il-mezzi tax-xandir sal-għeluq tal-votazzjoni. Lanqas ma jista' jixxandar rappurtagġ b'mod indirett ta' x'qalu l-mexxejja, kandidati jew uffiċjali oħra tal-partiti.
- iv) L-istazzjonijiet ma jistgħux ixandru jew jirreplikaw aħbarijiet/stqarrijiet li jkunu qed jidhru fuq siti elettronici li fin-natura tagħhom jitqiesu li jiksru l-provvedimenti marbuta mal-ġranet tas-silenzju.
- v) L-istazzjonijiet ma jistgħu jwasslu l-ebda messaġġ li jista' jwassal biex jinfluwenza il-votant. Barra minn hekk m'għandhom lanqas iħeggu lin-nies biex imorru jivvutaw jew biex ma jmorrux jivvutaw.
- iii) only the following party representatives may appear on broadcasting stations: PL – Leader and both Deputy Leaders; PN – Leader, both Vice Leaders; and the Leader and Vice Leader of the other political parties contesting this election. Should there be only one candidate who will contest this election on behalf of his/her party then only this candidate can appear. They should only be shown entering the polling booths and casting their vote. No comments of such persons may be broadcast on the broadcasting media up till the closure of the polling stations. Neither can stations broadcast in an indirect manner the statements made by party leaders, candidates and other party officials.
- iv) Stations cannot broadcast or replicate news items/statements featured on electronic sites which by their very nature would be considered to be in breach of the provisions relating to the campaign silence period.
- v) stations cannot air any message intended to influence voters. Moreover, they shall not encourage people to vote or not to vote.

Stharriġ tal-Opinjoni Pubblika

7. (1) L-Awtorità tirreferi wkoll għal Ftigijiet dwar Standards u Prattika ta' l-2007 dwar id-Diversi Tipi ta' Stharriġ ta' l-Opinjoni Pubblika Mxandra fuq is-Servizzi ta' Radju u Televizjoni li għandhom disposizzjonijiet relatati mal-elezzjonijiet. Kopja ta' dawn il-Ftigijiet hija mehmuża ma' din id-Direttiva.

Public Opinion Polls

7. (1) The Authority refers to the Requirements as to Standards and Practice Applicable to Various Types of Polls Broadcast on Radio and Television Services which contain provisions relating to elections. A copy of these Requirements is attached to this Directive.

Għoti ta' skeda għall-perjodu ta' żmien is-skiet

8. (1) Mhux aktar tard minn nofsinhar ta' nhar it-Tnejn, 21 ta' Marzu 2022, kull stazzjon tax-xandir irid jagħti lill-Awtorità skeda dettaljata tal-programmi u reklami għal matul il-perjodu ta' żmien is-skiet biex tiġi approvata mill-Awtorità. Suġġett għal dak li jingħad fis-subartikolu (6) ta' l-artikolu 5 ta' din id-Direttiva, f'dan il-perjodu m'għandhomx jixxandru programmi ta' ġrajjet kurrenti, programmi ta' diskussjoni, programmi ta' ġurnalizmu investigattiv, u programmi ta'

Provision of Programme Schedule during the Silent Period

8. (1) Not later than noon of Monday, 21st March 2022, all broadcasting stations shall forward to the Authority a detailed schedule of programmes and advertisements to be broadcast during the silence period so that it may be approved by the Authority. Subject to the provisions of subarticle (6) of article 5 of this Directive, no current affairs programmes, discussion programmes, investigative journalism programmes or programmes of a similar nature

natura simili għal dawn h'leif dawk li jġu approvati mill-Awtorità għal xandir f'dawn il-jumejn.

(2) Wara li l-Awtorità tirċievi dawn l-iskedi hija tista', jekk tħoss il-ħtieġa, iżzomm laqgħa mal-partiti politiċi biex tiżgura li l-iskedi tal-istazzjonijiet politiċi li jkunu ġew approvati mill-Awtorità jġu rigorożament osservati mill-istazzjonijiet politiċi.

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may be broadcast except for those programmes which may be approved by the Authority to be aired during these two days.

(2) After the Authority receives these schedules, the Authority may, should it so require, hold a meeting with political parties in order to ensure that the programme schedules of political stations which had been approved by the Authority are rigorously observed by political stations.

25th February 2022