



**Joint Stock Company
«Public Broadcasting Company of Ukraine»
(JSC «UA: PBC»)**

**СУСПІЛЬНЕ
МОВЛЕННЯ
УКРАЇНИ**

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**Ms. Delphine Ernotte Cunci
President
European Broadcasting Union**

Dear Ms. Ernotte Cunci,

JSC “UA: PBC” as the Public Broadcaster of Ukraine expresses our highest consideration to you and requests for support and protection of common values of members of the broadcasting union.

As you know, on 21 February 2022, the Russian Federation decided to recognize the “independence” of the quasi-formations established by it on the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine – the so-called “Luhansk People’s Republic” and “Donetsk People’s Republic”. Doing so, the Russian side disregarded the international law, the UN Charter, violated the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders.

Such actions are a consequence of many years of aggressive policy of the Russian Federation that is realized, in particular, through biased Russian media, including the EBU members Channel One Russia and the All-Russian State Television and Radio Broadcasting Company (Rossijskoe Teleradio).

Since the beginning of the Russian aggression against Ukraine, the EBU members from the Russian Federation, particularly Channel One Russia and Rossijskoe Teleradio, have been the Kremlin’s mouthpiece and a key instrument of political propaganda financed from the state budget of the Russian Federation. Instead of following the EBU values, the specified broadcasters have been continuously and systematically spreading disinformation, violating journalistic standards,

disseminating hate speech, acting as a crucial element of the information war of the Russian authorities against both Ukraine and the rest of the civilized world.

According to clause 3.5.5 of Article 3.5 of the EBU Statutes, EBU members must demonstrate their ability to fulfil the membership obligations, in particular, to further the purposes of the EBU as set out in Article 1.2 of the EBU Statutes, namely:

- promoting and developing the concept of public service media and their values, in particular, of universality, independence, excellence, diversity, accountability and innovation, as referred to in the EBU Declaration on the Core Values of Public Service Media;
- safeguarding freedom of expression and information;
- free formation of opinions;
- developing intercultural dialogue;
- reinforcing social cohesion.

Due to the systematic conducting of the Russian Federation's disinformation policy by the Russian broadcasters that are EBU members in contradiction to the EBU principles, JSC "UA: PBC" hereby requests **initiating the procedure of the cessation of membership of the Russian broadcasters Channel One Russia and Rossijskoe Teleradio in the EBU based on Article 5.2 of the EBU Statutes, in particular non-compliance with clause 3.5.5 of Article 3.5 of the EBU Statutes.**

In 2021, the EBU suspended the membership of BTRC because of the violation of core values of the EBU. Since the Russian broadcasters Channel One Russia and Rossijskoe Teleradio are likewise instruments of authorities, systematically violating journalistic standards and values of the EBU, JSC "UA: PBC" relies on a similar consideration and further positive decision on the cessation of their membership in the European community of public broadcasters.

We realize that the process of cessation or suspension of the EBU membership requires thorough consideration by the EBU Executive Board and putting this matter before the General Assembly of the EBU. Meanwhile, we urge the EBU to react immediately to the unacceptable situation caused by Russia with the support of its essentially state broadcasters that are members of the EBU.

We request the EBU to initiate as soon as possible the consideration by the member broadcasters of **excluding Russia from participation in the Eurovision Song Contest 2022 due to the grave breach by the relevant participating broadcaster of clause (ii) of Section 2.7 of Part 1 of the 2022 ESC Rules that refers**

to the EBU Values. The relevant campaign #EurovisionWithoutRussia was started by the fans of this international contest and is spreading on the Internet.

In addition, we would like to stress that the Eurovision Song Contest was established after World War II to unite Europe. In this regard, the participation of Russia as an aggressor state and a violator of the international law in this year's Eurovision undermines the idea of the contest as such. We attract your attention to the fact that Russia's participation in this year's contest is ensured by Rossijskoe Teleradio which is an instrument of the Kremlin's authorities in the information war against Ukraine and continuously violates journalistic standards underlying public broadcasting. Excluding Russia from this grand song event will be a powerful response of the international community of public broadcasters to the unacceptable aggressive and unlawful actions of the Russian Federation and the support of the hostile invasive policy by the state broadcasters of this country.

The current activities of Rossijskoe Teleradio and Channel One Russia contradict the idea of public broadcasting and create an information support to the unlawful actions of the Kremlin authorities which puts peace in Europe and the world under threat.

Common values and principles of the EBU member public broadcasters are no declarative slogans, therefore we expect unanimity and support of all colleague broadcasters in this matter.

Sincerely,

Mykola Chernotytskyi
Head of the Managing Board