

CMFE

COMMUNITY MEDIA FORUM EUROPE

To: Uffe Elbæk, The Danish Minister of Culture
Ministry of Culture
Nybrogade 2
1203 Copenhagen K
Denmark
E-mail: kum@kum.dk

Subject: reestablishment of 'must carry' for non-commercial media in Denmark

Nijmegen, 11 May 2012

Dear Uffe Elbæk,

In support of the request of our Danish member "SAML" for the re-establishment of 'must carry' rules for non-commercial media, CMFE (Community Media Forum Europe) agrees that 'must carry' is a necessary component of a free and pluralistic media environment.

Denmark has, in earlier years, played an important role by inspiring other European countries to approve media laws that supported community media. 'Must carry' was an essential part of the Danish media law for community media. Losing 'must carry' sets Denmark back as an inspiration for other European countries and denies an important part of Danish citizens full access to a diverse, pluralistic and democratic media environment.

Community Media is a necessary third sector of media, recognized by, amongst others, Council of Europe, European Parliament and United Nations. Community media play an important role in articulating and allowing citizens to actively participate in society. CMFE requests that 'must carry' should be re-established in order to get a fair and balanced media policy regarding community media in Denmark.



Europe for Citizens
Programme

CMFE is supported by the EU under the 'Europe for Citizens Programme 2011'

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CMFE is registered in Belgium as an International Non Profit Organization (INGO) under Business number: 0822.992.342.

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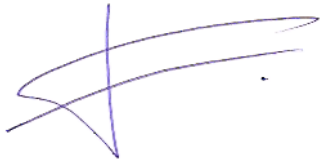
COMMUNITY MEDIA FORUM EUROPE

The social and cultural value of Community Media has been affirmed by the “Declaration of the Committee of Ministers on the role of community media in the promotion of the social cohesion and the inter cultural dialogue”, adopted by the Council of Europe on 11 February 2009, and the Resolution of 25 September 2008 of the European Parliament on Community Media in Europe.

In these declarations the Council of Europe and the European Parliament also advocate to acknowledge Community Media within the media laws, to support them financially and to provide these with adequate access to broadcasting networks.

We would be grateful if you could inform us on the outcome of the process and the underlying motivation.

Yours sincerely,



Pieter de Wit
President CMFE

*CMFE is a European network of policy experts, organizations and federations, which aim to support and present the role of Community Media on the European level, with a total of **101** members from **25** European countries: **45** Individual Members and **56** Organizational Members, of which **26** are (National) Federations.*

CMFE has close links with Denmark (one of CMFE co-founders was Rui Monteiro from Indvandrer TV in Aarhus. Rui Monteiro is still a CMFE board member representing Denmark) through our Danish members, among which SLRTV - Sammenslutningen af lokale radio- og TV-stationer i Danmark, DILEM - Danske Idebaserede Lokale Elektroniske Medier, SAML - Sammenslutningen Af Media i Lokalsamfundet and Aarhus Global Media (Indvandrer TV, Radio Bazar, Børne- og Ungdoms Radio &TV and Gellerup Radio &TV).



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