

ORGANISATION DE COOPÉRATION ET DE DÉVELOPPEMENT ÉCONOMIQUES



ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

## **OECD COMMUNICATIONS OUTLOOK 2001 Broadcasting Section**

**Country: Greece**

**Date completed: 03/07/2000**

## BROADCASTING

### Broadcasting services available

1. Please provide details of the broadcasting and cable television services available in your country.

Infrastructure provision for following service	Number of licensed operators (2000)	Number of privately owned companies <sup>1</sup>	Number of public service organisations <sup>2</sup>
Terrestrial TV (National coverage <sup>3</sup> )	13	13	3
Terrestrial TV (Local coverage <sup>4</sup> only)	95	95	-
Terrestrial radio (National coverage)	4	-	4
Terrestrial radio (Local coverage only)	269	241	28
Cable television service <sup>5</sup>	-	-	-
Analogue direct broadcast satellite (DBS) service	-	-	1
Digital DBS service	7	5	2

<sup>1</sup> Defined as private sector companies holding one or more licences for service provision.

<sup>2</sup> Including state-owned corporations or institutions holding one or more licences for service provision.

<sup>3</sup> A service with national coverage is defined as a service by a group of television or radio stations distributing a majority of the same programming, that are licensed on a national or regional basis but collectively provide nation-wide coverage. Affiliating companies of the nation-wide broadcast network are included in this category. If new operators have been licensed to provide national coverage in the last three years but are at the stage of rolling out networks please include these operators in the total.

<sup>4</sup> A service with local coverage is defined as a service by a group of television or radio stations that are licensed on a national or regional basis but distribute the programming in the local area only. If new operators have been licensed to provide local coverage in the last three years but are at the stage of rolling out networks please include these operators in the total.

<sup>5</sup> Please indicate if more than one organisation is permitted to own and operate cable television infrastructure in the same area.

2. Please provide details on the major terrestrial TV broadcasting companies which have national coverage in your country<sup>6</sup>.

Name of national terrestrial broadcaster	Ownership status (private or public)	Analogue or digital service or both	If digital		Relationship with transmission network owner <sup>7</sup>
			Free to Air (FTA) <sup>8</sup> or subscription	Number of channels	
ET-1	Public	Analogue			a
NET	Public	Analogue			a
ET-3	Public	Analogue			a
Hega Channel	Private	Analogue			a
Antenna TV	Private	Analogue			a
Star Channel	Private	Analogue			a
Alpha TV	Private	Analogue			a
New Channel	Private	Analogue			a
Alter 5	Private	Analogue			a
MAD TV	Private	Analogue			a
Seven	Private	Analogue			a

<sup>6</sup> A service with national coverage is defined as a service by a group of television or radio stations distributing a majority of the same programming, that are licensed on a national or regional basis but collectively provide nationwide coverage. Affiliating companies of the nation-wide broadcast network are included in this category. If new operators have been licensed to provide national coverage in the last three years but are at the stage of rolling out networks please include these operators in the total.

<sup>7</sup> Options include:

- (a) broadcaster owns network
- (b) broadcaster has a commercial relationship with a privately owned network
- (c) broadcaster has a commercial relationship with state owned network
- (d) broadcaster has non-commercial relationship with state owned network
- (e) other; please describe.

<sup>8</sup> A free to air (FTA) service is one which is available to viewers without paying a direct fee.

Antenna Macedonia	Private	Analogue			a
NetMed Hellas S.A. (FiluiNet, etc.)	Private	Digital	Subscription	4	c

**3. Please provide details on the major cable and satellite broadcasters and transmission networks in your country.**

	Name of broadcaster	Number of channels in premium service		Does the broadcaster own the transmission network? If not, who does?	Is the transmission network used to deliver more than one broadcasting service?
		Analogue service	Digital service		
<b>CABLE</b>					
<b>SATELLITE</b>	Multichoice (Nova)		13	Yes	Yes
	ERT SAT	1	1	Yes	No
	Mega Cosmos		1	Yes	No
	ANT Satellite		1	Yes	No
	Alpha TV		1	Yes	No

**4. What was the price of a subscription service in the largest city of your country on 1st January 2000? Basic service corresponds to the least expensive option to a customer and premium service the most expensive option. (Local currency, current prices)**

	Name of operator	Connection fee	Basic service		Premium service	
			Monthly subscription fees	Number of cable channels included in the basic option (excluding free services)	Monthly subscription fees	Number of cable channels included in the premium option (excluding free services)
<b>Cable Television services</b>	-					
<b>Satellite television service</b>	Multichoice S.A. (Nova)	149.000 GDR	14.900 GDR			
<b>Digital terrestrial television service</b>	NetMed Hellas S.A. (filuiNet, etc.)	-	7.500 GDR		11.200 GDR	

## Communication services available on broadcasting networks

### 5. Please provide details on the communication services available from broadcasting transmission networks in your country.

	<b>Terrestrial</b>	<b>Cable</b>	<b>Satellite</b>
<b>Services provided over the network, e.g.</b> FTA broadcasting, Subscription broadcasting, Telephony, New digital services, Internet access	Subscription broadcasting	-	-FTA broadcasting -Subscription broadcasting
How many cable and satellite operators are providing telephony and internet access services?	-	-	-
<b>Regulatory restrictions</b> Does the owner/manager of the transmission network face regulatory requirements in the following areas. If so, please give details. -Access to infrastructure or transmission services -Providing access to conditional access systems -Ownership restrictions -Restrictions on services which can be provided	-	-	There is a regulatory restriction in the provision of voice telephony from broadcasting networks valid until 31/12/2000.

## Digital television

6. (a) Please indicate on which transmission networks digital television is (or will be) available and whether it is provided as a subscription service or FTA. Also indicate the year in which the service first became available (or will become available).

	Terrestrial	Cable	Satellite
FTA			1995 (Antenna)
Subscription	1997 (NetMed Hellas)	-	Late 1999 (Multichoice Nova)

(b) Please provide data indicating the take-up rate of digital television by consumers, such as percentage of households with a digital television receiver.	There are not any data concerning this question
(c) Do regulations restrict the type of services which digital broadcasters can provide? If so, please provide details.	There is a regulatory restriction in the provision of voice telephony until 31/12/2000
(d) Are digital terrestrial broadcasters required to provide a simulcast service in analogue and digital? If so, please describe the requirement.	There is no obligation about the provision of a simulcast service.

## Broadcasting regulatory framework

7. Which organisation(s) administer the following services (carriage and content) in your country and what are their main responsibilities? Please mention agencies dealing with spectrum allocation and management, and providing licences.

Terrestrial broadcasting service	The Ministry of Press and Mass Media provides licences to Broadcasters in collaboration with the National Council of Radiotelevision and the Ministry of Transport and Communications for terrestrial, cable and satellite broadcasting services.
Cable Television service	
Direct broadcast satellite (DBS) service	

**8. How would a carriage network which delivered television, telephony and internet services be regulated in your country?**

Please provide details: -

**9. Please provide a description of significant recent policy changes affecting the provision of broadcasting services, as well as any draft laws, or regulatory proposals to be implemented in 2000-2001.**

Please provide details:  
 - Law 2644/98 (Oct 1998) for the provision of subscription broadcasting regulates the licensing of broadcasters, issues of ownership and principles of content.  
 - The Ministry is closely following all broadcasting issues and intends to proceed soon in the proper regulations.

**10. Please indicate whether public service obligations in broadcasting regulations have changed since 1998 and provide details of any changes.**

Please provide details:  
 The 2644/98 law for the provision of subscription broadcasting gives to the public broadcaster (ERT S.A.) the right to provide subscription broadcasting through an affiliated company created for this purpose.

**11. Please indicate whether regulations concerning content have changed since 1998. Please provide details of any changes in relation to:**

<b>Local content requirements</b>	- Implementation of 97/36 EC Directive (with the presidential decree no: 100-17/3/2000) concerning the provision of broadcasting services. - The provision of broadcasting regulation concerning the respect of privacy pluralism, etc. are repeated in the 2644/98 law.
<b>Must-carry requirements</b>	The 2644/98 law includes some must-carry provisions.
<b>Community standards</b>	Implementation of 97/36 EC Directive (see above)

- 12. Please indicate whether regulations concerning ownership and market entry (for terrestrial, cable and satellite) have changed since 1998. Please provide details of any changes in the following areas:**

<b>Limitations on number of stations</b>	Every company can hold only one licence for Pay TV with the same mode of transmission (terrestrial, cable, satellite) and one more licence for pay TV with a different mode of transmission.
<b>Foreign ownership</b>	The headquarters of the company must be in a EU country, but at least one of its legal representatives must be a resident of Greece.
<b>Cross media and cross sector provisions</b>	The owner of a Pay TV licence cannot hold a licence for a FTA broadcasting (it is permitted when there is no abuse of dominant position). The owner of a Pay TV licence cannot be a shareholder in more than two different categories of media (TV, radio, newspapers).
<b>Other restrictions on ownership</b>	A person or company can participate only to one company that holds a Pay TV licence. The participation in a company that holds a licence of terrestrial (subscription) broadcasting service is limited up to 40% of the company's capital.

### **Convergence**

- 13. Under the communication regulation existing in your country how would services provided over the Internet, which some have likened to broadcasting services (e.g. audio and video services transmitted over the Internet) be defined and treated?**

Please provide details:
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- 14. Would a video-on-demand service be treated differently in terms of regulations, according to the transmission methods (for example, PSTN, cable or satellite)?**

Please provide details:
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- 15. Under the communication regulation existing in your country how would conditional access services, such as in digital DBS services, be treated?**