

**Question for written answer E-004685/2015
to the Commission**
Rule 130
Ivan Jakovčić (ALDE)

Subject: Additional question regarding transparency of media ownership

Does the Commission welcome the recommendations for ensuring transparency of media ownership tabled by Access Info Europe, which draw on research into the law and practice in 20 Member States?

Recommendations:

- Media companies should be required to publish financial accounts and audit reports prepared in accordance with the highest international standards and in sufficient detail to identify sources of funding.
- Ownership information should be clearly signposted and easily accessible on the website of the national media authority and/or a central government portal.
- An independent oversight body, such as a national media authority which already oversees registration of broadcast media, should be mandated and adequately resourced to monitor and ensure compliance with the relevant law(s).
- The appointment, mandate, function and powers of the oversight body should be designed to ensure its independence from government. The laws governing the application of the sanctions should ensure that they cannot be abused for political purposes and that they provide media with effective and rapid appeal mechanisms.