

WRITTEN QUESTION E-2757/09
by Wojciech Roszkowski (UEN)
to the Commission

Subject: Possible incompatibility of Polish media bill with EU law

In connection with the Polish Government's plans to change the way in which public-service broadcasters (both national and regional) are funded, can the Commission say whether:

1. The replacement of the licence fee with a publicly funded National Broadcasting Council fund which finances 'public-service programmes' on the basis of programme licences may be deemed to constitute State aid?
2. The replacement of the licence fee by a levy – a separate flat-rate tax levied in connection with annual tax returns – is in keeping with Community law?
3. The introduction of a further tax on advertising on commercial electronic media, to be used to cofinance (in tandem with budgetary resources) public-service channels, together with the discontinuation of advertising on public-service channels, is in keeping with Community law?