

<COUNTRY>

Name of Regulatory Authority <Estonian Broadcasting Council>
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Basis for operation

Legal framework <Broadcasting Act>

General remit infrastructures TV radio networks and
 Others (please specify)

Funding mechanisms ⁱ licence fee industry fee state budget
 mixed funding (please specify):
 other (please specify):

Composition

Number of members: 9 Term of office: 4 (5) years Re-election possible: +
Proposal of members: Cultural Affairs Committee of the Parliament (Riigikogu) On the proposal of the Riigikogu Cultural Affairs Committee, the Riigikogu shall appoint four members of the Broadcasting Council from among recognised specialist in the related fields relating for the performance of public broadcasting functions, for a term of 5 years.

Appointment of members: Parliament (Riigikogu) The Riigikogu shall appoint five members of the Broadcasting council from among the members of the Riigikogu on the basis of the principle of political balance. Upon termination of the authority of the composition of the Riigikogu, the members of the Broadcasting Council who are members of the Riigikogu shall remain members of the Broadcasting Council until entry into force of a resolution concerning the appointment of members of the new composition of the Riigikogu to the Broadcasting Council

Revocation of mandate possible: + based on: Broadcasting Act A member of the Broadcasting Council shall resign from office at his or her own request or shall be removed, if he or she no longer meets the requirements provided for

in this Act or is permanently unable to perform his or her duties.

Number of staff: 1

Chairman: Andres Jõesaar

(if not applicable, name Director General)

Vice Chairman: Jaak Allik

Please describe your authority's structure if it does not have a board:

Competences

		national	regional	local
Granting of licences	terrestrial analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	terrestrial digital broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	satellite analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	satellite digital broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	cable analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	cable digital broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Others (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

In the areas where your authority is not competent to grant licences, please specify the authority in charge:

Please add any other relevant information:

Granting of registrations	terrestrial analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	terrestrial digital broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	satellite analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	satellite digital broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	cable analogue broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	cable digital broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Others (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

In the areas where your authority is not competent to grant declarations, please specify the authority in charge:

Please add any other relevant information:

Frequency allocation

Supervision of	private broadcasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	public broadcasters	+ <input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Handling complaints +

Sanctioning	<input type="checkbox"/> issue warning	<input type="checkbox"/> impose fine	<input type="checkbox"/> demand to broadcast announcement
	<input type="checkbox"/> revoke licence	<input type="checkbox"/> suspend licence	<input type="checkbox"/> reduction in the licensing period
	<input type="checkbox"/> suspend a programme / broadcast		

+ other (please specify): remove the Chairman and other members of the management board of public radio (*Eesti Raadio*) and the Chairman and other members of the management board of public television (*Eesti Televisioon*) from office, and restrict the rights of representation of the management boards or members thereof.

Rule making

codes

+ rules (please specify): approve the statutes of *Eesti Raadio* and the statutes of *Eesti Televisioon*; approve the policies and development plans of *Eesti Raadio* and *Eesti Televisioon*; approve the procedure for the possession, use and disposal of the assets of *Eesti Raadio* and *Eesti Televisioon*; approve the internal audit rules of *Eesti Raadio* and *Eesti Televisioon*; establish the procedure for preparation of the annual reports of *Eesti Raadio* and *Eesti Televisioon*; establish the procedure for election campaigns conducted through *Eesti Raadio* and *Eesti Televisioon* during the elections of the President of the Republic, Riigikogu elections, elections to the European Parliament and local government councils; establish the organisation of the work of the Broadcasting Council.

other (please specify):

Consultative powers

+please specify the areas covered: review and approve the proposals and other documents submitted to the Riigikogu, Government of the Republic and ministries in the name of *Eesti Raadio* or *Eesti Televisioon*;

to represent public broadcasting in negotiations with the Ministry of Finance concerning the budget proposals;

participation in working groups dealing with media issues.

Power of nomination (e.g. chairman of PSB)

+please specify: Members of the Broadcasting Council shall elect the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Broadcasting Council from among themselves. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Broadcasting Council shall be elected by a majority of the members of the Council for a term of up to four years. Broadcasting Council appoint the Chairman and other members of the management board of *Eesti Raadio* and the Chairman and other members of the management board of *Eesti Televisioon* to office for a term of up to five years

Monitoring

- programming
- +financial performance

+others (please specify): exercise supervision over performance of the public broadcasting functions listed in Broadcasting Act (§§ 25–27);

exercise supervision over implementation of the policies and development plans of *Eesti Raadio* and *Eesti Televisioon*;

exercise supervision over implementation of the budgets of *Eesti Raadio* and *Eesti Televisioon*.

Others

- Please specify:

Please add any information you deem important:

At present the working group of Ministry of Culture is working out the new Broadcasting Act. Deadline is 2005 spring. The bases of the act is united public television and radio organisation (at the moment public broadcasting exist as two separates organisations – *Estonian Television and Estonian Radio*).

ⁱ By “licence fee” we refer to the public service licence fee usually paid by the entire population, whereas the term “industry fee” implies all those funding mechanisms based on a contribution from broadcasters themselves, including, for example, licensing fees (i.e. an amount of money that is paid by the broadcaster for it to be able to carry out its broadcasting operations) and frequency taxes.