

**(Unofficial translation, legal authenticity remains with original Norwegian version)**

## **Act relating to transparency of media ownership**

LOV – 2016- 4-17-64

### **Section 1. Purpose of the Act**

The purpose of this Act is to ensure transparency of ownership interests in Norwegian media.

### **Section 2. The substantive scope of the Act**

The Act shall apply to enterprises which operate daily newspapers, television, radio or electronic media, and to enterprises which through ownership or cooperation agreements have influence over such enterprises.

### **Section 3. Duties of the Norwegian Media Authority**

The Norwegian Media Authority shall contribute to create greater transparency, awareness and knowledge of ownership interests in Norwegian media. The Authority shall collect and systematize information about the ownership structure, and make the information available to the public.

### **Section 4. Duty to provide information**

Everyone is obligated to provide the Media Authority with the information required in order for the Authority to be able to perform its duties pursuant to this Act. The obligation to provide information includes both information regarding ownership in Norwegian media and information regarding cooperation agreement, giving a contraction party corresponding influence on the editorial product as ownership. Information may be required in written or oral form within a specified time limit.

Information required under the first paragraph may be granted notwithstanding the statutory duty of confidentiality that otherwise apply to tax authorities and authorities responsible for monitoring public regulation of economic activity. Nor shall the duty of confidentiality preclude the surrender of documents in the possession of such authorities, for investigation.

The Ministry may issue regulations concerning the scope and implementation of the duty to provide information.

### **Section 5. Coercive fine**

To ensure compliance with decisions made in pursuance of Section 4 pharagrah one, the Media Authority may decide that the person responsible for compliance shall pay a coercive fine to the State.

Coercive fine may be determined as a continuous fine or as a lump sum. By continuous fine the Media Authority may decide that the fine shall be determined for each day, week or month that

passes after a set time limit for complying with the obligation expires, without the obligation being fulfilled. By fines in the form of a lump sum, the Media Authority may determine that the fine must be paid when a set deadline for compliance with the requirement expires, without the obligation being fulfilled.

The Media Authority may in special cases reduce or remit the imposition of coercive fines, including interest.

The Ministry may issue regulations concerning the imposition of fines, terms of fines, the size of coercive fine and interest on overdue payments.

## **Section 6. Appeals board**

Appeals against the Media Authority's individual decisions pursuant to this Act or the regulations laid down in pursuance of this Act shall be dealt with by the Appeals Board for Media Affairs (Media Appeals Board).

The Appeals Board may not reverse decisions of The Media Authority by its own initiative.

## **Section 7. Commencement**

This Act shall enter into force from the date decided by the King.