



**SCREENING CHAPTER 10
INFORMATION SOCIETY AND MEDIA**

**AGENDA ITEM 11B: AUDIOVISUAL POLICY
PUBLIC SERVICE BROADCASTING**

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General Overview

Broadcasting in Turkey, initiated and developed under the supervision of public authority, has a strong experience and tradition.

Time Period	Broadcasting Model
1927 - 1937	Charter Agreement
1937 - 1964	State Monopoly
1964 - 1993	Public Service Broadcasting Organization
1993 -	Dual System



Charter Agreement (1927-1937)

- **In 1926-Turkish Wireless Telephone Inc., the first broadcasting company in Turkey established as a joint stock company by private capital.**
- **Under the Charter Agreement signed with Ministry of Internal Affairs in 1927, aforementioned Company operated the radio stations for 10 years.**
- **In 1937, the Charter Agreement were not renewed and administration of the radio stations taken over by a state monopoly.**



State Monopoly (1937-1964)

- **State monopoly in broadcasting continued under the different name and different governmental bodies until 1964 when the 1961 Constitution in article 121 stipulated that "The administration of broadcasting and television stations shall be regulated by law as autonomous public corporate bodies" .**
- **By depending on this Article, the duty of broadcasting was assigned to Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT) which was established by The Turkish Radio Television Law No.359 on May 1, 1964.**

Public Service Broadcasting Organization (1964-1993) (I)

- **The independent structure of the TRT lasted eight years. Article 121 was amended on 20 September 1971 and the structure of TRT was turned into an impartial public corporate body with Law No.1568.**
- **In 1982, the new Constitution, in its Article 133, restructured radio and television administration as an impartial public corporate body.**

Public Service Broadcasting Organization (1964-1993) (II)

- **By depending on the Article 133 of 1982 Constitution; Turkish Radio and Television Law No.2954 which re-established TRT as an impartial public legal entity entered into force in 1983 and it is still valid.**
- **In 1993, TRT's monopoly position in broadcasting was legally terminated by the addition of a new paragraph to the Article 133 of the Constitution: “Radio stations and television channels shall be freely established by the law.”**



Dual System (1993-)

- **With this amendment, the Constitution not only granted the "plurality /pluralism" and obliged the "authorization" in broadcasting system, but also bestowed "autonomy" as a new indispensable feature to TRT Corporation, which already existed as an "impartial public legal entity".**

Constitutional Obligation of TRT as a Public Service Broadcaster

- **To help making the “independence of the media” dominant, to maintain the free formation of the political willpower and to preserve the pluralism by extending choices.**
- **To accomplish this obligation, the followings are the indispensable attributes which are assigned to TRT by Constitution:**
 - **It is a public corporate body.**
 - **It is unique (there is no equivalent and no peer).**
 - **It is autonomous and its broadcasts are impartial.**



Legal Framework of TRT

Due to this Constitutional requirement (not including the amendment in 1993), following two laws, constitute the legal framework of TRT.

- Turkish Radio Television Law (No. 2954) which ensures the impartiality of TRT as a "public economic enterprise" with some special provisions.**
- The Revenues of Turkish Radio Television Corporation Law (No.3093) which determines the provisions for the funding of the public service broadcasting.**



Administrative Structure of TRT

- **Administrative Board is the highest decision-making and management organ of the corporation. Members serve a four-year term.**
- **The Director General who is also the Head of Administrative Board is appointed for a four-year term by the Council of Ministers from among three candidates nominated by the Radio and Television Supreme Council.**
- **Six members of Administrative Board are appointed by a decree of the Council of Ministers from among twelve candidates nominated by the Radio Television Supreme Council from among individuals distinguished in the field of electronics, mass communication, law, business administration or economics, social sciences, and arts and culture.**

The Mixed Funding Scheme for TRT

- **The public service activities of TRT are funded by a combination of public and commercial revenue.**
- **The source of the funding and the way it is provided is regulated by The Revenues of Turkish Radio Television Corporation Law (Law No. 3093).**
- **The major source of funding is "a share of income from electricity utility consumption" which is regarded as a particular method of collecting broadcasting (licence) fee.**
- **The remaining source of the funding are as follows:**
 - **Revenue from the tax stamps attached to television and radio receivers, music sets and VTR's, Advertising revenues and revenues from selling audiovisual goods and services.**



Broadcasting Activities of TRT

Radio	Operates 4 national and 8 regional networks within the Country and two local stations
Television	4 national channels and 2 international channels. One of the national television channel is time-shared with broadcast from the Turkish Grand National Assembly
External Broadcasting: Voice of TURKEY	Broadcast regularly scheduled programmes in 27 languages over short wave transmitters and satellites
Teletext	On two national and one international television channels.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION