

Delphine Ernotte Cunci  
President, European Broadcasting Union

CC:  
Noel Curran  
Director-General, European Broadcasting Union,

Vanessa O'Connor  
Director of Member Relations & Communications,  
European Broadcasting Union

25 February 2022

**Joint Statement by Public Broadcasters on the membership of the Russian Federation in the EBU and its participation in Eurovision Song Contest 2022**

Dear Delphine,

We, the Baltic Public Broadcasting: Latvian Television (LTV), Latvian Radio (LR), Lithuanian Radio and Television (LRT), Estonian Public Broadcasting (ERR) – strongly appeal to the European Broadcasting Union as our representative and a defender of our shared values as European Public Broadcasting, calling for decisive and swift action in a situation where the Russian Federation, in violation of international law, has launched a war in the Republic of Ukraine, posing an extreme threat to the people of Ukraine, the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country, through military aggression.

The Baltic Public Broadcasting strongly condemn the war waged by the Russian Federation in Ukraine. We cannot be silent about the suffering of Ukrainians because we know and remember the pain of our own people. Our countries, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, have all been occupied by military force, we know what it means to have our people massacred in wars and suffering for fifty years of occupation.

It is also unforgivably naive to expect that the aggressor's appetite will diminish with the destruction of Ukraine. We feel responsible to the people of Ukraine, and therefore believe that stopping aggression using all the tools at our disposal is also the responsibility and duty of the public broadcasting.

We call on the EBU to stand firm and use all means at its disposal to support and defend the people of Ukraine, the sovereignty of the country, public broadcasting JSC UA:PBC and the values we all share. We, the Baltic Public Broadcasting, demand the following:

- 1) To initiate the procedure of the suspension or exclusion of the membership of the Russian broadcasters Channel One Russia and Rossijskoe Teleradio in the EBU based on Article 5.2 of the EBU Statutes, in particular in compliance with Clause 3.5.5 of Article 3.5 of the EBU Statutes.

2) To exclude Russia from participation in the Eurovision Song Contest 2022 due to the grave breach by the relevant participating broadcaster of Clause (ii) of Section 2.7 of Part 1 of the 2022 ESC Rules that refers to the EBU Values.

We call on the EBU to take an immediate stand against the membership of the aggressor, the Russian Federation, in the organization.

And we also encourage other EBU members to join the statement so that decisive action can follow as soon as possible.

We, the Baltic Public Broadcasters, also want to express our appreciation for enormous efforts done by EBU management team in serving EBU members and providing support and media assistance extremely vital for press and media freedom especially in the current difficult and challenging time.

Respectfully,

Monika Garbačiauskaitė-Budrienė,  
Director General of the Lithuanian National Radio and Television

Erik Roose,  
Chairman of the Board of the Estonian Public Broadcasting

Ivars Priede,  
Member of the Board of the Latvian Television

Una Klapkalne,  
Chair of the Board of the Latvian Radio