

# Circom Report

CIRCOM Regional Newsmonthly • CR is the European Association of 380 Public Regional TV Stations in 38 countries • May 2002/No 31

## The results of the Prix Circom Regional 2002

After the judging in Langlaur am Brombachsee, the winners of the Prix Circom Regional 2002 are as follows:

### GRAND PRIX OF CIRCOM REGIONAL (NEWS)

Winner Reporting Scotland (BBC Scotland, UK)  
Runners-up Central News at Six (Carlton Broadcasting, UK)  
Objective (TVP Bailystock, Poland)

### GRAND PRIX OF CIRCOM REGIONAL (DOCUMENTARY)

Winner Dead Silence (RTÉ, Ireland)  
Runners-up L'Hôpital de la Plage (France 3 Sud)  
Voyage dans l'entre deux (France 3 Alsace)

### CURRENT AFFAIRS AWARDS (sponsor European Parliament)

Winner The Smugglers (TV2 Østjylland)  
Runners-up Stephen's Story (BBC Birmingham, UK)  
Life in Ribnovo (BNT, Bulgaria)

### CROSS BORDER AWARD (sponsor TVP Poland)

Winner Kowalski Meets Schmidt  
(TVP Wroclaw, Poland, and OR  
Brandenburg, Germany)  
Runners-up The Last Stitch (TV2 Fyn, Denmark)  
Catherine: The Saint of Two Communities  
(TG4 Ireland and TV Slovenia)

### SPECIAL "MOST ORIGINAL" AWARD (sponsor France 3)

Winner Below Sea Level (TV Flevoland, The  
Netherlands)  
Runner-up The Talents (TV2 Østjylland)

## EC meeting in Kosice on May 27

A meeting of the CIRCOM Regional Executive Committee will be held on Monday, May 27 2002 starting at 9.30 in Saloon No. 1 of the Slovan Hotel in Kosice, Slovakia.

Proposed agenda:

1. Approval of the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting in Zagreb on February 16th, 2002
2. Report on the preparations to the Kosice Conference (Kleis, Medved)
3. Brief overview of the European Board agenda
4. Current activities:
  - a) Prix Circom (Lowen)
  - b) Training (Dijkhuis)
  - c) Euromusica (Kongalides)
  - d) EU projects (Kraewinkels)
5. Current financial standing (Djuranek)
6. Report of CR Secretariat
7. Miscellaneous

## CR European Board meeting in Kosice on Tuesday 28 May

A meeting of the European Board of Circom Regional is to be held on Tuesday, May 28 2002 starting at 9.30 in Saloon No 1 of the Slovan Hotel in Kosice, Slovakia.

Proposed agenda:

1. Approval of the minutes of the European Board meeting in Kosice, November 24th 2001
2. Establishing presence and quorum
3. Changes of membership (possible new National Coordinators)
4. Preparations to the Kosice Conference (Mr Kleis and colleagues)
5. Report on the Prix Circom 2002 (Mr Lowen)
6. Report on training activities in 2002 (Mr Dijkhuis and Thomson Foundation)
7. Preparations to Euromusica 2002 (Mr Kongalides)
8. Report on the Call for new EU tenders (Mr Kraewinkels)
9. Finance: a) passing the final account for 2001  
b) Discussion on the external auditors report  
c) Discussion on report and guidelines of Internal Auditors  
d) Current information of financial standing  
e) Long-outstanding payments
10. Report of Circom Secretariat
11. Preparations to the 2003 conference
12. Miscellaneous

May 21 – 23

# Media cast 2002 in London's Docklands

The best minds in broadband media and communications will be meeting at ExCel in London's Docklands, May 21 – 23 .

Representatives from IBM, Disney, iTV, VOD, high speed internet web OpenTV and Echostar (amongst others) will be sharing ideas, presenting new products and provoking debate about the latest innovations. Straight from the people and companies who are setting the convergence agenda.

Cable, satellite, wireless, DSL, DTT, [www.mediacast.co.uk](http://www.mediacast.co.uk)

## US newsrooms converge to improve journalism

Poynter.org is running a series of five case studies on how partnerships between TV, newspaper, website and radio newsrooms improve journalism.

While many partnerships are often based on self-promotion, those studied by Poynter show how the public gets news and information that would not be available without the arrangements.

In Fort Lauderdale, Florida, one newspaper gets video for its website from two local TV stations and, in return, helps them with content. It also produces daily radio newscasts for a public radio station. Another case study involves

Washingtonpost.com, which with agreements with Newsweek, NBC News and MSNBC online, breaks stories on TV or online before they are ever in the newspaper.

Other stories in the series involve a public radio station that posts photos with nearly every story it runs online, and a 24-hour cable news station with remote, live cameras in four newspaper newsrooms with whom it shares information every day.

## TV buffs turn to the Web

A recent study from Internet measurement service Nielson/NetRatings revealed an increase in traffic to TV network websites as people turn to the Net for information about their favourite shows' season finales as the crucial May sweeps season approaches.

"In the recent weeks, various television networks have promoted season finales, new sitcom episodes and special programming events, hoping to increase viewership", Carolyn Clark, Internet media analyst at NetRatings said.

For the week ending April 28, NBC saw a 21% increase with 477,000 unique visitors, ABC recorded an increase of 17% with 1.7 million surfers logging on and CBS logged a 12% increase, attracting 815,000 users to its site.

## Media training to bridge digital divide

The International Research and Exchange Board (IREX), a US-based non-profit organisation aiming to improving media in regions like Eastern Europe, has launched a project to teach broadcast and print journalists in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) along with training on how to use the Internet as a tool of journalism.

IREX's ProMedia programme, which has been very active in BiH, is organising a series of specialised seminars throughout the country focused mainly on computer assisted reporting (CAR).

The innovative Internet and computer training programme hopes to bridge the country's digital divide, and promote investigative journalism. The use of Internet and computer technologies in media in BiH is still considered to be far behind that of Western countries. To improve the situation, last year IREX started a special bi-monthly internet bulletin, BiH Link, available in electronic and print format.

IREX/ProMedia has been working to create a sound media market and self-sustained media sector in BiH. The organisation aims to improve business management practices in media outlets and the overall quality of journalism by assisting in development of media legislation and regulatory framework.

## European news sites lead the way

Despite North America's status as the birthplace of the Internet, European news sites are now starting to provide more innovative content, according to new research.

Web writing expert J.D. Lasica of the Online Journalism Review (OJR), said: "Most of the experts we contacted underlined the diverse, deep-seated journalism traditions that infuse new media in each European country".

The OJR review looked at sites in the UK, France, Germany, Denmark, Spain, Belgium, Austria, The Netherlands, Italy and Sweden. Belgium and Germany were generally seen as offering the brightest future for web journalists. In Denmark the web had not really taken off to the same extent, while in Sweden and Austria - despite high levels of computer ownership - the recession had hit hard.

In the UK the only serious international web presences were seen as The Guardian and the BBC. Spain and Italy had also been hit hard economically, but Italy's La Repubblica offered an innovative solution by charging for print content republished on the web, while original online content remains free.

## Montenegro: media law incorporates EU standards

A proposed media law currently being drafted by the government of Montenegro establishes an important statement of intent by incorporating the principles and legal precedents of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), says ARTICLE 19 website. The group has published a report suggesting further improvements to the law, which has recently been released for public comment and is slated to replace the 1998 Law on Public Information.

Article 1 of the draft law states that the clauses in the law "shall be interpreted in compliance with the principles contained in the European Convention for the Protection of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms and shall be governed by the precedence law practice of the ECHR." This is important, says ARTICLE 19, because it recognises the ECHR's strong position on the important function of the press in a democratic society. However, the group also outlines concerns

about parts of the draft law that continue to restrict free expression. It says several provisions containing generally accepted restrictions on free-expression, such as bans on hate literature, should be removed and applied to general laws governing all sectors of society, not just the media. ARTICLE 19 also says a defamation provision giving individuals the right to sue writers and journalists who allegedly insult them is too broad and should be removed.

## Turkey seeks to push through controversial media bill

The Turkish government plans to push through parliament a controversial media bill that clashes with the constitution and the country's commitments to the European Union, critics say. Aydin Dogan, the dominant Turkish media magnate whose newspapers account for two-thirds of Turkish newspaper advertising revenues, is the bill's most important backer outside parliament, and its most likely beneficiary.

The bill, to be submitted to the full parliament after its adoption in committee earlier this month, would remove a ban on media owners' right to bid for lucrative government tenders, including electricity distribution rights won by Mr Dogan's diversified conglomerate before a court ruled he could not exercise them. The support of Dogan group media is considered essential by most politicians eyeing an election due to be held by 2004. EU diplomats argue that the law would also set back Turkey's bid to join the

European Union, by tightening rather than liberalising restrictions on freedom of expression. For instance, the draft bill retains an effective ban on Kurdish-language broadcasting that Turkey had undertaken to lift by the end of last month. It also bans media from airing "pessimism". Lawyers say this could be interpreted to mean anything - including criticism of the unpopular three-party coalition government that is partly to blame for a devastating 9.4 per cent contraction in the economy last year.

## Russian deputy defends media reform

Aleksei Volin, the Russian deputy chief of the presidential staff, told Ekho Moskvyy radio on 12 April that technological advances will eventually make state ownership of mass-media outlets inefficient and unnecessary, strana.ru reported.

Volin said that, if in the near future viewers have 300 digital television channels at their disposal, it will be meaningless to control only one of those channels. The state should instead employ 10 producers to develop television programming and shows, he added, thus ensuring itself a role in television media. This system would allow the state to announce tenders of companies and to provide various informational programmes.

In the same Ekho Moskvyy interview, Mr Volin said that before the restructuring of relations between the state and mass media can occur, a new law on mass media should be adopted. The current Russian Law on Mass Media, implemented in 1990, is "hopelessly obsolete," he said. On 12 April, strana.ru quoted Media Minister Mikhail Lesin as saying that the present law does not distinguish between publishers, editors, and proprietors of the mass media.

## Serbian government agrees media law

The cabinet has approved and sent to the parliament legislation to transform state-run radio and television into a public broadcaster, RFE/RL's South Slavic and Albanian Languages Service reported on 4 April.

The legislation will also set up an independent broadcasting supervisory board to replace the government in oversight of the electronic media.

## Moscow protests RFE/RL's broadcasts

The Russian Foreign Ministry has handed over an official protest to the US Embassy in Moscow in connection with the beginning as of 3 April of RFE/RL broadcasts to the North Caucasus in the Avar, Chechen, and Circassian languages, Russian news agencies reported.

Aleksandr Volin, the deputy chief of the Russian presidential staff, told ORT on 3 April that the broadcasts may have a "vegetative effect on the security not only of Russia, but the other countries of the regions, as US officials, due to insufficient language skills, can hardly control the content of the broadcastings that could become a channel for extremist views."

However, the beginning of broadcasting, especially in the Avar language, caused "real enthusiastic excitement" among the people of Daghestan, among which Avars comprise the biggest ethnic group, Ekho Moskvyy reported.

## Swedish TV4 set to launch iTV service

TV4, the Swedish private TV station, plans to launch a digital interactive television (iTV) service in mid-April called Mediteve, understood to include live SMS chat and games. It is understood the Mediteve will concentrate the new interactive service on the combination of television, computers and telephone.

"Mediteve is meant to be unpredictable. It is our audience which is in command, and the editorial staff will conform to the choices of the audience. But no one will be safe; suddenly there will be surprises among the chat. You will chat with people you never dreamt of meeting, and it will be on TV," said Mats Beckman, developer of TV4's website.

Namni, a Stockholm-based independent producer, together with Mediteve, is set to develop the service. Distribution deals are reportedly already secured, apart from the fledgling DTT network, with Com.hem, the Telia-controlled Swedish cable market leader, and Canal Digital, which claims to be the biggest Nordic DTH digital operator. TV4 acquired two new DTT licences in 2000 in addition to its earlier two-one national licence and one for TV4's 16 regional services.

# The Middle Management Seminar in Timisoara and the conclusions

The Middle Management Seminar held in Timisoara, Romania, was the first training module of the current contract awarded to The Thomson Foundation by CIRCROM Regional.

The seminar was held April 2-6, 2002. Fifteen participants representing 12 countries attended. A maximum of eighteen places was advertised.

The training team was led by Phil Davies and Gareth Price (The Thomson Foundation), assisted by Vanda Condurache (TVR Iasi) and with a session by Roel Dijkhuis (Chairman of CIRCROM Regional Training Board of Governors and Managing Director, TV Noord, Holland).

All logistical arrangements were executed by Elena Spanily (TVR Bucharest and CIRCROM National Co-ordinator), assisted by Corina Cosma (TVR Bucharest) and the management of TVR Timisoara, led by Brindusa Armanca and assisted by Dan Ratiu (who also participated in the seminar).

Timisoara, in western Romania, was chosen as the venue, as it is centrally positioned, with good access by air, rail and road. Additionally, the city boasts excellent facilities for accommodation of a seminar of this kind.

## The trainers

\* Gareth Price is Director of The Thomson Foundation. He has a wealth of international media management experience, from previous stages in his career at BBC Wales, and from his current commitment to management at developing broadcasting organisations worldwide.

\* Phil Davies, a member of the broadcasting section staff at The Thomson Foundation, also has many years of practical experience of broadcast management, again from a career at the BBC, and from his work during his time at the Foundation.

\* Vanda Condurache is a manager at TVR Iasi, having served in several positions during the past ten years. In addition to her current duties as Deputy Director at her TV station, she is involved in teaching at the local university faculty of Journalism.

\* Roel Dijkhuis is well-known to CIRCROM Regional management, both in his official capacity with the organisation, and as the Managing Director of RTV Noord.

## The participants

A range of middle management disciplines was represented. Some were programme producers, others engineering or technical managers, there was a director of news, a finance manager, and regional production managers. The variety of positions held could have caused difficulties, but proved in the end to be a dynamic and positive mix.

A wide disparity of organisational situations was also evident. At one extreme, the national broadcaster of Moldova, whose staff were then on general strike in protest at their professional conditions; at the other extreme, small public service broadcasters (e.g., PBS, Malta), and some private municipal stations (e.g., RTV Trstenik, Serbia), serving a relatively small audience against stiff competition

and outside pressures.

Further, the variation in personal experience was of benefit to the group in general. Some participants were relatively new to their positions, others had several years of experience of the broadcast media in their own country.

All were united in their openness, in their general interest in the topics under discussion, and (with one exception) in their willingness to contribute of their personal experience.

The only reserved person was Boriana Krasteva, who did not take such an active part in the daily proceedings. This was due, not to a refusal to join in, but to her level of spoken English. Her Bulgarian colleague spent much time translating for her, a helpful gesture.

As a final example of the group's commitment, discussion was continued outside the seminar, by day and during the evenings. There was in evidence a great camaraderie that had built up over the week.

## The seminar

The brief was: to provoke middle managers to consider their own performance and that of their organisation, in relation to the breadth of experience of other participants, and with a view to immediate or short-term improvement of their efficiency, given that the prime aim of every broadcaster is to provide the best quality of programming that is relevant to its audiences.

Daily sessions ran from 0900 to 1300, and from 1400 to 1730, with short mid-session breaks. The evenings were taken up with visits to some of the attractions of the city, ably arranged by the local TVR management. A final afternoon visit was made to the local TVR station.

Even within this time, it proved difficult adequately to treat some topics to the detail required by some specialists. However, one of the intentions of the seminar was to open up other areas of expertise to the participants; for example, to demonstrate the need across all management sectors within an organisation that the ultimate aim was to produce programmes of the highest quality possible within the means available.

As the full schedule shows, time was devoted to open sessions. The intention here was to allow a participant to describe some of his/her practical problems and solutions to the benefit of all present.

There were some fascinating individual presentations: a description of the management and political control of Teleradio Moldova; the open structure and democratic structures of RTV Noord and TV2 Nord; the ways in which small Serbian broadcasters were taking production, technical and legal initiatives; the business plan for commercialising the second channel of Georgian TV and Radio; the different regional solutions in Romania to the programme schedule in their respective areas.

More formally, sessions to discuss aspects of broadcast management were aired: leadership and motivation; self-management; managing finance; regional programming; line management and decision making; personnel issues.

A provocative element was the approach taken by Gareth Price in his presentations. See page 5

## The Middle Management Seminar in Timisoara and the conclusions

→ From page 4

His delivery was, typically, by means of the “contemplative essay”. This approach was evidently appreciated by the participants, leading, as it did, to valuable and wide-ranging management discussion.

This open and relaxed approach to the seminar led to positive benefit, in that there was always opportunity to depart from the strict agenda of the session in reaction to the participants’ needs. It was then only a question of drawing together the points of good management that had been described, in order to meet the declared parameters and requirements of the week’s programme.

The seminar was formally opened by Brindusa Armanca, General Manager at TVR Timisoara, and CIRCOM Regional was represented by Elena Spanily. To close the seminar, the request to complete a questionnaire was made (Appendix B), and a presentation of certificates was made to all participants.

### Conclusions

We have always held that middle management is a vital area for development. All too often, managers may find themselves in situations with which they are ill equipped to deal, through no fault of their own.

The positive participation and feedback demonstrate that at least some of these needs were satisfactorily addressed.

It is a useful formula, to mix managers from different disciplines, in that they may realise that teamwork is vital in any media organisation, large or small, state, public or private.

The balance of formal and informal session presentations seemed to work well. In particular, the exchange of personal experiences was mentioned by several participants as one of the most valuable features of the seminar.

This same feature applies to the trainers. With four such people involved, there was a depth and width of perspective that could be applied to all the topics under discussion.

The number of participants was well pitched, although there was an invitation for a maximum of 18 to attend. There were enough participants to keep the discussion open and varied; not too many to inhibit spontaneous discussion and problem solving.

Informal feedback has also demonstrated that some managers, at least, returned invigorated to their daily position and function.

There are, quite honestly, no negative conclusions about the seminar itself, other than individual observations received via the questionnaire. The main observation to be made in this respect is that the seminar was

List of participants			
Country	Name	Title	Organisation
Bulgaria	Anelia Rancheva	Exec. Producer, Entertainment Programmes	Bulgarian National Television
Bulgaria	Boriana Krasteva	Manager, Regional Programmes	Bulgarian National Television
Croatia	Hrvoje Habekovic	Producer	Croatia TV
Cyprus	Chryso Constantinidou	Senior TV Programme Officer	Cyprus Broadcasting Corporation
Denmark	Aksel Nielsen	Finance Manager	TV2 Nord
Georgia	Levan Kubaneishvili	Deputy Director General	Georgian RTV Channel 2
Greece	Dimitris Athanasopoulos	Director of News	ET-3 (Greek National TV)
Malta	Joseph Borg Xuereb	Assistant Engineering Manager	Public Broadcasting Services
Moldova	Violeta Gorgos	Producer, Music programmes	Teleradio Moldova
Romania	Carmen Olaru	Producer	TVR Iasi
Romania	Dan Ratiu	Head of Broadcasting	TVR Timisoara
Serbia	Nenad Djurovic	Programme Director	NTV-Nis
Serbia	Petar Kesic	Technical Manager	RTV Trstenik
Slovakia	Stefan Farkas	Head of Production, Kosice	Slovak TV
Turkey	Muharrem Sevil	Deputy Director, Programmes	TRT

advertised too late for some National Co-ordinators to nominate participants. This is to be regretted, and can be avoided in future.

There is also the question of language, a subject raised by a National Co-ordinator. The official languages of CIRCOM Regional are English and French. A question was raised as to the perceived inadequacies of the French-language versions of the recruitment material, though in the past, it is understood that no concession has been made to the Francophone countries involved in training. This topic may well be raised at the appropriate forum of CIRCOM Regional. Recommendations for future practise would be welcome.

### Recommendations

The duration of the course seemed appropriate, given that middle managers find it difficult to be absent from their place of work for a longer period.

The basic aims and objectives of the course seemed relevant and appropriate to the participants, in general. Therefore, a basic structure seems to be in place, one that can, of course, be adapted for other specific needs.

Similarly, the presence, in this instance, of up to four trainers, each with a differing aspect of delivery and emphasis of content, can be recommended.

### Analysis of completed questionnaires

All 15 participants returned completed questionnaires

### What was most useful to your organisation?

※“The spirit of co-operation and professionalism needed in a broadcasting organisation. The importance of a financial

expert and the need of a good working system.”

※“Comparing the way we are organised in comparison with .situations in the other participants’ stations.”

※“To meet the fellows from abroad. To understand more about the budget and its importance. To understand how I can become a good team leader>”

Will your approach change if so, how?  
※“I hope I’ll work better with my team.”

※“Being more patient for communication.”

※“Yes, using enough of suggestions in my job, avoiding problems or misjudgements from other (participants’) TV stations.”

※“Accelerate ongoing activities in management and education.”

### Future training requests?

※“Supply middle managers with “tools” to develop themselves as leaders.”

※“A lot of financial management; we need (to achieve) something very much, but have no money.”

※“More about personal (ie, self) management.”

※“More advice about personnel problems.”

### Comments

※“A useful and efficient meeting.”

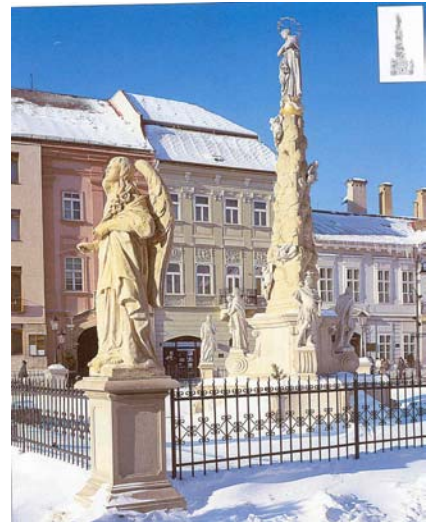
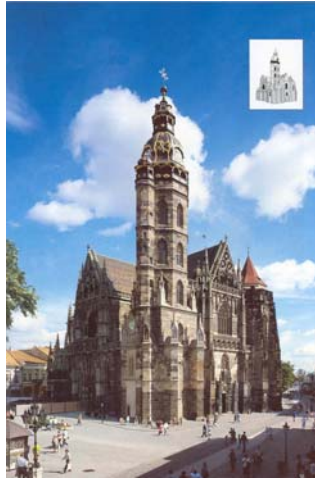
※“Too much food”!

※“Coming here is like a patient coming to a hospital; you forget your pains when you see others.”

※“Thanks for encouraging us and directing us to our vision.”

※“...efficiently spent time.”

※“... useful and practical.”



Welcome to Kosice, the metropolis of Eastern Slovakia. In the Hornad Valley, bounded to the west by outliers of the Slovakian Ore Mountains but spreading over an area of 244 km<sup>2</sup> lies a modern city of European stature. This city practically breathes its rich history at you, so let yourself be enticed by its several centuries of truly interesting and intricate chronicles.

Thanks to some rich archaeological finds, Kosice beginnings can now be dated way back to the later Paleolithic, around 35-40 thousand years ago. Fortified Bronze Ages settlements at Barca and Nizna Mysla, and Roman and Avaro-Slavonic period finds, are evidence of dense population along the Hornad's course. Kosice is first mentioned in documents much later, however, in the year 1230, when still only a settlement. After the Tartars devastated Hungary in their invasion of 1241-42, German colonists from the Lower Saxony region settled in the Kosice area, and in the late 13<sup>th</sup> century they and the local Slav population built up a town protected by fortified walls. Kosice became a center for merchants and craftsmen grouped together in guilds, and the Furriers' Guild Charter is the oldest known one in Hungary.

One very significant date in the town's history was 15<sup>th</sup> June 1312 when the battle of Rozhanovce was fought, the people of Kosice defending their freedoms and helping King Charles Robert to defeat the allied armies of the oligarch Omodej and Matus Cak of Trencin. For this help the Anjou kings then expressed their gratitude by bestowing privileges on the town, for example raising it to free royal town status in 1342 and 1347, and granting it its own coat of arms in 1369.

In the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> centuries Kosice experienced a craft and trade boom, won a monopoly for producing fustian cloth, minted its own coins and built the superb St. Elizabeth's Cathedral. From 1440 Jan Jiskra of Brandy's resided here for a time. The city grew in culture and population. The early 16<sup>th</sup> C saw the Reformation catch on in the city, and up until the 17<sup>th</sup> C most of the townspeople were Lutherans or Calvinists. In 1536 Jan Zapolsky occupied Kosice, and this time is traditionally the start of stronger Hungarian influence in the city. Turkish expansion from the mid-16<sup>th</sup> C made Kosice a fortress and the seat of the Upper Hungarian Capitanate, a military and administrative territorial unit.

Counter – Reformational repression led to Kosice being taken by Stefan Bocskai in 1604, and then in 1619 by Gabriel Bethlen. When he died the city returned to the Emperor, but it was occupied again in 1664 by Gyorgy Rakoczi. In 1670 the Wessellenyi conspirators assembled here,

# Kosice welcomes the CIRCUM Regional annual conference

More about Slovakia's historic city

and in 1682 Imre Thokoly took the town. The destructive uprising of Ferenc Rakoczi between 1703 and 1711, sieges, fires and a plague epidemic then completed the city's economic and demographic decline.

The peace established in the 18<sup>th</sup> C was filled with the spirit of strict re-Catholicization, but that century ended with religions being accorded equal rights, so in the 1800's Lutheran and Calvinist churches could be built in the city center, and Jews could begin settling here too, mostly from the Lower Carpathian region and Galicia. In 1804 the Eger diocese was divided to create the Kosice See, and its first bishop, Andrej Szabo, deserves credit for having the first city hospital built. By the mid-19<sup>th</sup> C Kosice had become a center of Hungarian national awareness, culminating in the 1848 revolution. The move to free Hungary from Vienna's hegemony was however suppressed by the allied Austrian and Czarist armies.

After this, though, Kosice changed into an industrial, garrison and administrative center. In 1856 the telegraph and in 1860 the railway came to the city, and in turn public lighting, water mains and sewers, gas mains and public transport were introduced. After the Austro – Hungarian Settlement of 1867 there was strong hungarianization of the population. The new century found the city enjoying a cultural boom, with a mass of new buildings and extensive reconstruction of the historical center.

In the First World War Kosice served the rear, and field hospitals and reinforcement units were concentrated here. On the last day of 1918 Kosice joined the newly-created Czechoslovak Republic. A tradition of marathon races has been cultivated here since 1924, and the same year saw the local radio station set up. New residential areas were built, and in 1935 the Kosice Gold Treasure was found under the Main Street. This period was also characterized by the activities of working-class, left-wing groups.

In November 1938 the Vienna

Arbitration made Kosice part of Hungary again under Horthy's rule. The following stagnation reached its nadir in 1944 with the deportation of Kosice's Jews to the death camps and the reign of terror of the local Fascist soldiery. The city's recent history began with two dates: 19<sup>th</sup> January 1945, when it was occupied by the Red Army, and 21<sup>st</sup> January, when Kosice became part of Czechoslovakia again and for a while even the capital of the country as it was gradually liberated.

The powerful post-war development of the city was clearly stimulated when the East Slovakian Steelworks started up, providing work for people from all over the Republic. The resulting population explosion then required new living quarters, and so the historical center was gradually surrounded by concrete tower-block estates. Present-day Kosice is a modern city, the administrative center of part of the East Slovakian region. The advantages of its geographical position, close to the borders of three neighboring states (Hungary at 20 km, Ukraine at 80 km and Poland at 120 km), make conditions for international trade especially favorable.

Many important firms are actively represented in the city, involved in wholesale and distribution of goods, accommodation and catering, and finance and banking services. Apart from metallurgy, the engineering, construction, food processing, printing and textile industries are also well-developed here. And Kosice is not only a center for industrial companies, but also for research, education and cultural institutions, and it is a city of sport and entertainment. Thanks to its protected heritage area, declared in 1983 and the largest in the country, the city is sought out by hundreds of foreign visitors.

We invite you then into the city streets, to get to know its secrets, the beauty of its historical heritage and the bustle of its present – day life.



## The CIRCUM Report team in Thessaloniki

The editorial team of the CIRCUM Report works hard to prepare each month's publication. Eleni Masoura is in charge of production and design while Vangelis Giasimakopoulos and Agis Menoutis are taking care of the news stories and rewriting. Here are the three posing with the new equipment and other upgraded facilities thanks to CR. The CIRCUM Report is edited in ERT3 headquarters in Thessaloniki. Greece.

## Festivals, workshops and more around Europe and the world

- May 16-17: 4<sup>th</sup> Annual - TV Meets the Web Seminar (Royal Tropical Institute-Amsterdam)
- May 16-19: 2<sup>nd</sup> Public TV Broadcasters from the BSEC Member States (Kassandra Palace Hotel, Kryopigi, Halkidiki, Crece)
- May 21-23: Mediacast 2002. Excel, London, UK. [www.mediacast.co.uk](http://www.mediacast.co.uk)
- May 21-23: London. The Television Production Show at Olympia [www.productionshow.com](http://www.productionshow.com)
- May 23: EU Culture and Audiovisual Ministers meet in Brussels
- May 25: Eurovision Song Contest (Tallinn, Estonia)
- May 27-28: Brussels. European broadband conference called "Creating eEurope with Broadband Cable". Tel: +322 521 1763
- May 27 - June 2: CIRCUM Regional annual conference (Kosice, Slovakia)
- June 3-8: Int'l Animated Film Festival (Annecy)
- June 11-15: Euromusica (ancient Olympia, Greece)
- June 13-14: Vienna. European Radio Forum to be held by the EBU. Contact Thomas Alexanderson at EBU. +41 22 717 2601
- June 15: Euromusica Gala (Greece)
- June 15: June issue of "CIRCUM Report"
- July 1-6: The Monte Carlo Television Festival (Grimaldi Forum, Monaco) [info@tvfestival.com](mailto:info@tvfestival.com)
- July 15: July issue of "CIRCUM Report"
- August 22-26: "Balkan TV Magazine" meeting (Greece)
- September 9-13: Le Rendez-Vouz 2002. French TV Screenings (Saint Tropez) [www.tvfi.com](http://www.tvfi.com)
- November: News Editors Seminar (Strasbourg)
- November 12-13: Athens. Global Sport Forum conference and exhibition, looking ahead to the Olympics in 2004, organized by the Stefi Production House. Tel: +44 20 7436 9120 [www.globalsportforum.com](http://www.globalsportforum.com)
- November 19-22: News World, the annual forum for the broadcast-news industry, at the Burlington Hotel, Dublin. 020 7491 0880 [info@newsworld.org](http://info@newsworld.org)

## CR programmes on EbS schedule

The Slovenian Magazine (RTV Slovenia) will be broadcast by EbS on May 15, at 22.00 CET, on May 16 at 5.30 CET and on May 18 at 11.00 CET.

"On earth as in heaven" (HRT Zagreb) and "Europeos No 13" (France 3 Alsace) will be broadcast on May 22, 23 and 25 on the same corresponding hours as above.

"Swiss world No 4" (TSI Lugano) will be broadcast on May 29, 30 and June 1.

## BoG members and training partners

Europe-by-Satellite in Brussels say that the 35-minute film produced during the Circum Regional S.E. Europe Workshop in Budva in March was transmitted across Europe on EbS, in their Campus slot, on Tuesday 16th April, Wednesday 17th April, and again on Saturday 20th April.

Karol Cioma ensured that the Council of Europe and the other partners were credited on a caption at the end of the film, as well as in the commentary by a young Croatian journalist who presented the programme.

This means that films about every Circum Workshop for Young Journalists since Thessaloniki in 1998 have been transmitted on EbS, which is quite a good partnership arrangement, raising the profile of Circum Regional with TV stations in every European country, but also in the offices of the European Institutions, where EbS is widely watched. Thanks are due from CR to Diederik Bangert for encouraging this arrangement.

## Circum Report

The "CIRCUM Report" is a monthly publication of CIRCUM Regional, the European Association of Public Regional TV Stations-available on the CR Internet site and coming to CR member stations and personnel either through E-mail or as an A4 size printed newsletter, through the CR General Secretariat from Zagreb. The French version of the CIRCUM Report is conceived and published by the Strasbourg Secretariat with support from the Region Alsace, the Conseil General du Bas-Rhin and the City of Strasbourg.

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All member stations are considered as potential contributors for this publication, with stories about new and innovative ideas, co-productions, exchanges, modern technologies, etc. Especially welcome are short stories and one-liners.

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