

Public money spent in the media

AJK's Report on Public Institutions'
Financial Expenditure on Public Information







Author: Ardian Nikolla

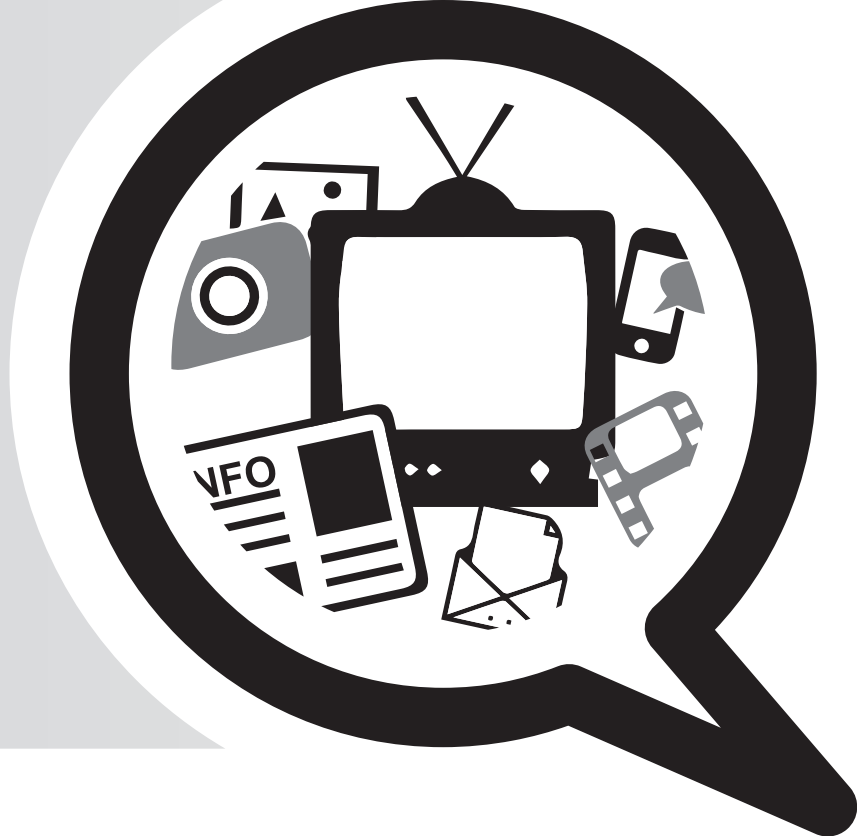
Edited by: Albana Merja

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Table of Contents

II. Introduction	4	b) Central Level Institutions	39
II. Methodology	5	1. Office of the President	40
a) Local level institutions	6	2. Kosovo Assembly	41
1. Municipality of Prishtina	8	3. Office of the Prime minister	42
2. Municipality of Prizren	9	4. Ministry of Public Administration	43
3. Municipality of Peja	10	5. Ministry of Local Government Administration	44
4. Municipality of Gjakova	11	6. Ministry of Justice	45
5. Municipality of Ferizaj	12	7. Ministry of Finance	46
6. Municipality of Gjilan	14	8. Ministry of the Kosovo Security Force	47
7. Municipality of Mitrovica	15	9. Ministry of Infrastructure	48
8. Municipality of Suhareka	16	10. Ministry of European Integration	49
9. Municipality of Istog	17	11. Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports	50
10. Municipality of Vitia	18	12. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning	51
11. Municipality of Malisheva	19	13. Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare	53
12. Municipality of Vushtrria	20	14. Ministry of Economic Development	54
13. Municipality of Podujeva	21	15. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development	55
14. Municipality of Skenderaj	22	16. Ministry of Returns and Communities	56
15. Municipality of Drenas	23	17. Ministry of the Diaspora	57
16. Municipality of Fushe Kosova	24	IV. Conclusions and Recommendations	58
17. Municipality of Dragash	25		
18. Municipality of Han i Elezit	26		
19. Municipality of Junik	27		
20. Municipality of Lipjan	28		
21. Municipality of Mamusha	29		
22. Municipality of Obiliq	30		
23. Municipality of Shtime	31		
24. Municipality of Kamenica	32		
25. Municipality of Klina	33		
26. Municipality of Rahovec	34		
27. Municipality of Deçan	35		
28. Municipality of Novoberda	36		
29. Municipality of Graçanica	37		
30. Municipality of Kaçanik	38		



I. Introduction

This is AJK's (Association of Journalists of Kosovo) first edition of the "Public Money Spent in the Media" Report, covering 2016. This report investigates and analyzes central and local government institutions' expenditure on public information. This research targeted all Kosovo Municipalities, Kosovo Government Ministries, the Office of the Prime Minister, the Office of the President and the Assembly of Kosovo.

The main purpose of this survey is to ascertain the manner in which public money was spent on public information in 2016 by the country's institutions, as well as to shed light on the reasons these funds were spent for.

This survey was conducted between April and August 2017, collecting data on expenses incurred in 2016. It is worth mentioning that the AJK faced numerous bureaucratic-institutional difficulties during the research period. These difficulties had a direct impact on our work, delaying data collection beyond a reasonable time frame and the deadlines set out in the Law on Access to Public Documents regarding payments, subsidies or grants extended to media outlets by local and central government institutions¹. Moreover, in a number of instances the AJK was also met

with lack of transparency on data publications by relevant institutions. Specifically, a considerable number of institutions did not respond to AJK's request for data on public information expenses incurred in 2016. At the local government level, we did not receive information from seven (7) municipalities. With the exception of Graçanica and Novoberda that cooperated with the AJK, the other municipalities inhabited and governed by the Serb community did not respond to our request. Meanwhile, at the central level, the AJK received no response from four (4) out of nineteen (19) ministries of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo. Furthermore, one ministry sent different data from those requested, and as such they are not included in this report.

¹ Accessible at: <https://gzk.rksqgov.net/ActDocumentDetail.aspx?ActID=2724>

II. Methodology

For the drafting of this report have been used the primary data collected directly from the aforementioned institutions. The AJK filed requests for Access to Public Documents regarding payments for public information services to domestic and foreign media. Likewise, it requested information on subsidy and grant payouts allocated by local and central institutions to all domestic or foreign media. AJK's requests to targeted institutions were filed by e-mail, and in most cases the receipt of the request was confirmed by the responsible officer of the respective institution. It is worth mentioning that smaller municipalities were quicker to respond compared to larger municipalities. Meanwhile, to the institutions that did not confirm the receipt of the request, the Association of Journalist of Kosovo sent three more requests (a total of four requests) by email, and utmost efforts were made to collect data from all institutions, in order for this report to be as comprehensive and complete as possible. However, as mentioned above, a number of municipalities and ministers did not respond

to AJK's request. This research presents a detailed reflection on the spending of local and central institutions on public information services and the potential financial dependence of media outlets from these institutions, which may directly affect these media's editorial and reporting policies vis-à-vis the respective institutions.



III. Data Analysis

The quality and quantity of the data provided by part of the institutions was rather low and unsatisfactory, especially the information provided by local government units, despite the fact that they were quicker to respond. A number of responses revealed that these institutions did not understand the content of the request of the Association of Journalists of Kosovo, and in certain cases we received very confusing and unclear data, making it arduous to reach any conclusion on the targeted institutions. It is worth mentioning that a considerable amount of the expenses incurred by municipalities and ministries has not even been categorized. Moreover, some of the institutions did not disclose what the expenses were incurred for, leading to their denomination as "No category" in the following analysis. Another challenging aspect during the conduct of this survey was the lack of explanations on the reasons for payments/contracts signed by the institutions - the municipalities with the respective media outlets. The collected data were carefully analyzed and structured for each institution. Likewise,

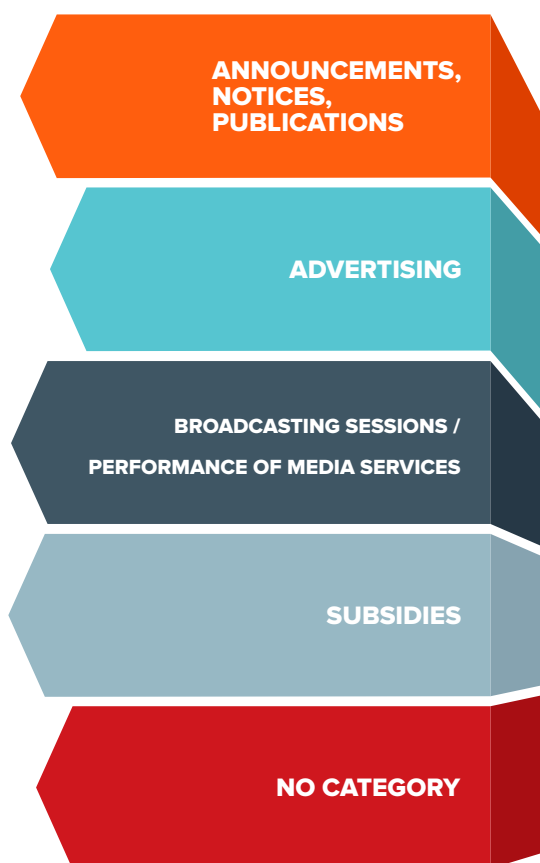
the provided data were validated based on the data downloaded from the Public Procurement Regulatory Commission's (PPRC) website on awards of tenders related to the field of public information. In most cases, we found contracts published by institutions on the PPRC website.² However, there are a number of institutions, primarily municipalities, which have not published any contracts and have not opened public tenders for media services. Some of the municipalities justified this with the fact that a single media outlet operates in their respective region, claiming this would qualify as single-source procurement.

The analysis of this report is divided into two main sections. The first section presents and analyzes the data on each municipality in Kosovo, excluding the municipalities that provided no data. Whereas the second section analyzes the data on each central institution.

² Accessible at: (<https://krpp.rks-gov.net>)

a) Local level institutions

a) Local level institutions



Each municipality's expenditure on public information services is presented in a separate graph. Moreover, the graphs represent the categories of incurred expenses. The main categories of expenses for each municipality are divided as follows:

- Announcements, notices, publications
- Advertising
- Broadcasting of Municipal Assembly sessions / performance of media services (coverage of institutions' activities)
- Subsidies (financial assistance)
- No category. (Expenditure categories are not disclosed)

As noted earlier, seven municipalities did not respond to AJK's request. These municipalities are; Kllokot, Partesh, Shterpca, Ranillug, Zvecan, Leposavic and Zubin Potok.



1. Municipality of Prishtina

At the time this research was conducted, the Municipality of Prishtina announced it had spent **€11,452.44** on announcements, notices, publications and media services. Meanwhile, according to this municipality, the pending payments for announcements, notices and publications for 2016 are **€14,306.76**. In total, the Municipality of Prishtina spent **€25,761.20** on public information in 2016. Four media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Prishtina.

Based on the Public Procurement Regulatory Commission's (PPRC) publications of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Prishtina in 2016, this municipality signed a contract for media services with a media outlet / news agency on 18.12.2015. The total value of this contract is **€8,940.00**. This contract does not specify its duration.

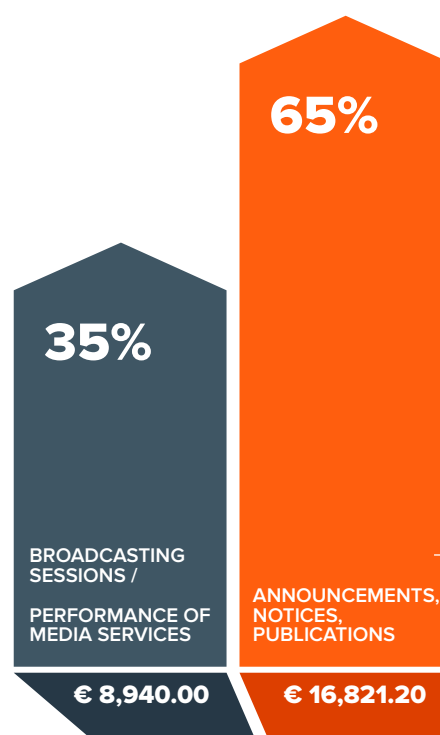


Fig. 1. Municipality of Prishtina



2. Municipality of Prizren

In 2016, this municipality spent €4,170.00 on announcements, notices and publications. It also spent €9,750.00 on broadcasting municipal assembly sessions. Whereas on advertising it spent €35,850.00. In total, the Municipality of Prizren spent €49,770.00 on public information. Eleven (11) media outlets have received payments from this municipality.

Based on PPRC's publication³ of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Prizren, this municipality has not disclosed any tender related to public information in 2016.

The AJK requested additional clarification from the Municipality of Prizren regarding payments / contracts with three (3) local TV stations, which appear to have received relatively higher payments from this municipality compared to other media outlets, based on the available data. In this instance, the AJK requested clarification regarding the form of payment and inquired whether a tendering process had taken place for these media. However, the Municipality of Prizren did not provide any clarification regarding the request filed by us.

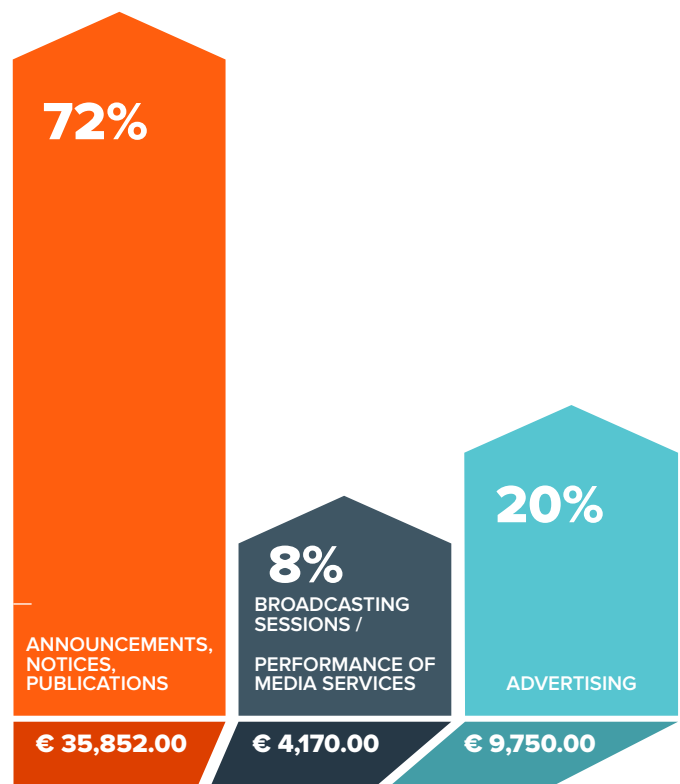


Fig. 2. Municipality of Prizren

³ Accessible at: (<https://krpp.rks-gov.net>)

3. Municipality of Peja

In 2016, this municipality spent **€10,000.00** on broadcasting Municipal Assembly sessions. Only one local media outlet/local TV station has received payments from the Municipality of Peja.

The contract between the media outlet / TV station and the Municipality of Peja was not published in the PPRC's website. Officials of the Municipality of Peja stated that "the contract between the municipality and the media outlet was entered into without a public tender, because there is only one local TV station in the municipality. It qualifies as a single-source contract."⁴



Fig. 3. Municipality of Peja

⁴Ariana Lukaj, e-mail to the author on 11.04.2017

4. Municipality of Gjakova

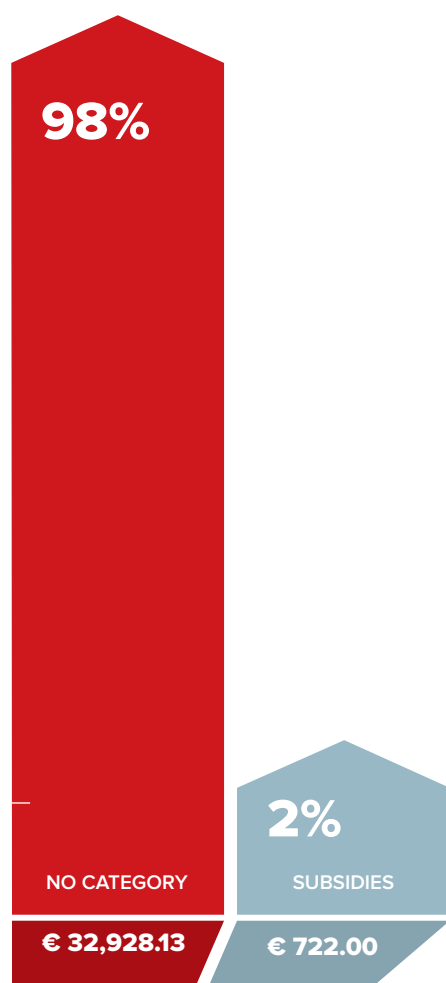


Fig. 4. Municipality of Gjakova

In 2016, this municipality spent **€32,928.13**, but the expenses are not divided into categories. Also, this municipality allocated subsidies (financial assistance) to a local media outlet / radio station in the amount of **€722.00**⁵. No reasons have been provided by the Municipality of Gjakova for subsidizing this media outlet. Based on the data provided by the Municipality of Gjakova, this institution spent **€33,650.13**. Nine (9) media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Gjakova.

Based on the available data on tenders awarded by the Municipality of Gjakova on PPRC's website, this municipality has published the contract with a local TV station, entered into on **15/04/2016**, for the broadcasting of the Municipal Assembly sessions as well as for the coverage of the other activities of the Municipality of Gjakova. The total value of this contract is **€50,000.00**. The calculated amount of Gjakova municipal financial expenditures in 2016 includes part of the funding of this contract, but the exact amount spent on this this contract is unknown, since its duration has not been determined.

⁵ <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDocumentDetail.aspx?ActID=2524>



5. Municipality of Ferizaj

The Municipality of Ferizaj spent **€97,280.00** on advertising in 2016. For the broadcasting of Municipal Assembly sessions, this municipality spent **€9,000.00**. In total, the Municipality of Ferizaj spent **€106,280.00**. Nine (9) media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Ferizaj.

The contract between the Municipality of Ferizaj and one local media outlet for the broadcasting of the Municipal Assembly sessions was signed on 26.06.2015 and ended on 25.06.2016. The value of this contract was **€18,000.00**. We have only accounted for the second part of this contract, corresponding to the first half of 2016, because this survey is focused on this time period of municipal spending on public information.

Whereas based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Ferizaj, on 14.10.2016 this municipality signed a contract with several private local media outlets, divided into four Lots. In the first lot, this municipality signed a contract with a medium in the amount of €45,600.00. In the second lot the Municipality of Ferizaj signed a contract with another medium in the amount of €7,200.00. In the third lot, the

Municipality of Ferizaj signed a contract with a medium in the amount of €42,300.00. Whereas in the fourth lot, the municipality of Ferizaj signed a contract in the amount of €34,000.00. All these contracts' duration is 12 months. It is worth mentioning that the Municipality of Ferizaj is the largest spender on public information during the year.



5. Municipality of Ferizaj



Fig. 5. Municipality of Ferizaj



6. Municipality of Gjilan

In 2016, this municipality spent **€37,981.00**, but the expenses are not divided into specific categories. Ten (10) media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Gjilan.

Based on PPRC's publications, the Municipality of Gjilan has published a tender with one local media outlet in the amount of **€9,068.00**, signed on 03.05.2016, for features on Municipal Assembly sessions.

The AJK requested additional information from the Municipality of Gjilan regarding the payment made to one media outlet in the amount of **€20,210.00**. We inquired whether a contract had been signed between the municipality of Gjilan and the media outlet, because during the data analysis we realized that this outlet received more payments than other media. However, the Municipality of Gjilan did not provide explanations about this payment. Also, based on searches in the PPRC website, no contract between the Municipality of Gjilan and this media outlet is recorded.



Fig. 6. Municipality of Gjilan

Municipality of Mitrovica

7. Municipality of Mitrovica



In 2016, this municipality spent **€18,100.00**. Even the Municipality of Mitrovica did not sort expenditures into specific categories. Three (3) media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Mitrovica.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the municipality of Mitrovica, on 27.04.2016, this institution signed a contract in the amount of **€61,200.00** with a local media outlet / TV station, on informing the citizens about the activities of the Municipality of Mitrovica. According to the data in the signed copy of this contract, its duration is 36 months. The calculated amount of Mitrovica municipal financial expenditures in 2016 includes part of the funding of this contract.

Fig. 7. Municipality of Mitrovica

8. Municipality of Suhareka

In 2016, this municipality spent **€3,700.05** on announcements, notices and publications in three media outlets.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by this municipality, on 15.08.2016 it signed a contract in the amount of **€3,540.00** with a local media outlet / TV station for the broadcasting of Municipal Assembly sessions. The duration of this contract was 12 months.



Fig. 8. Municipality of Suhareka

9. Municipality of Istog



Fig. 9. Municipality of Istog

In 2016, this municipality spent **€4,170.00** on announcements, notices and publications. Three (3) media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Istog.

Regarding the one media outlet / TV station contracted by the Municipality of Istog, its representative stated that "the contract with this medium is a single-source contract, because this TV station is the only national medium in the Peja region and therefore the municipality of Istog concluded a single-source contract".⁶

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Istog, this municipality has published the signed contract for publications with one media outlet / newspaper, dated 16.05.2016, in the amount of €3.157.00. The duration of this contract is 36 months.

To the AJK, the Municipality of Istog disclosed another contract, signed on 12.12.2014, with a local media outlet / radio station, in the annual amount of €3,000.00 for publication of the announcements of the Municipality of Istog. The duration of this contract is 36 months.

⁶Jeta Balaj, e-mail to the author on 11.04.2017



10. Municipality of Vitia

In 2016, the Municipality of Vitia spent **€1,635.00** on advertising, announcements, notices and publications, and **€5,860.00** on broadcasting Municipal Assembly sessions. In total, the Municipality of Vitia spent **€7,495.00**. Eight (8) media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Vitia.

Based on Municipality of Vitia publications, on 12.09.2015 it signed a contract with a local media outlet / TV station for the broadcasting of Municipal Assembly sessions, in the amount of **€5,860.00**. The duration of this contract was 12 months.

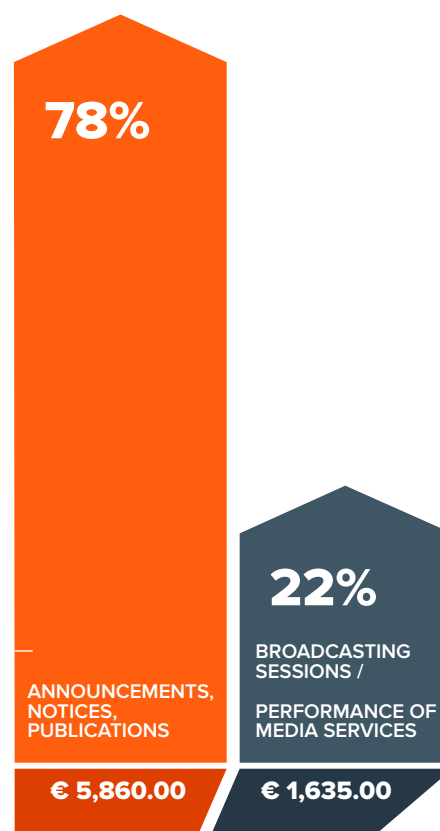


Fig. 10. Municipality of Vitia

Municipality of Malisheva



11. Municipality of Malisheva

In 2016, this municipality spent **€6,687.00** on announcements, notices and publications, and **€3,525.00** on advertising and competitions. In total, this municipality spent **€10,212.00** for payments to three different media outlets.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Malisheva, there is no contract for public information signed between this municipality and any media outlet.

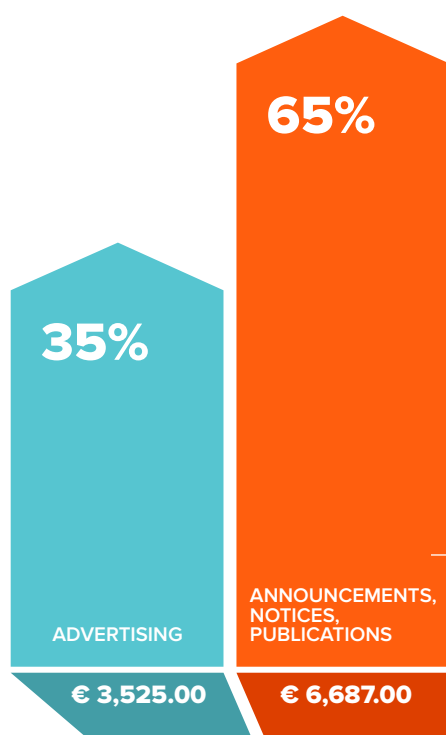


Fig. 11. Municipality of Malisheva



12. Municipality of Vushtrria

In 2016, this municipality spent **€995.00** on announcements, notices and publications, and **€2,299.64** on broadcasting Municipal Assembly sessions. In total, the Municipality of Vushtrria spent **€3,294.64**.

Based on PPRC publications, on 01.09.2016 this municipality signed a contract with a local media outlet / radio station, in the amount of **€10.772,19** for the broadcasting of Municipal Assembly sessions. The duration of this contract is 36 months.

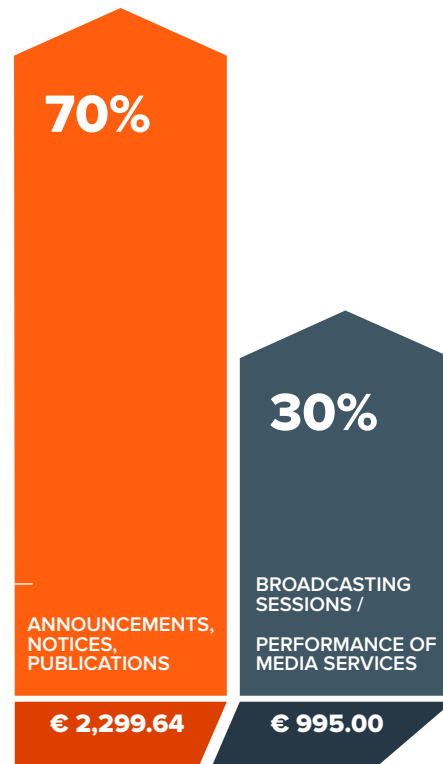


Fig. 12. Municipality of Vushtrria

Municipality of Podujeva



13. Municipality of Podujeva

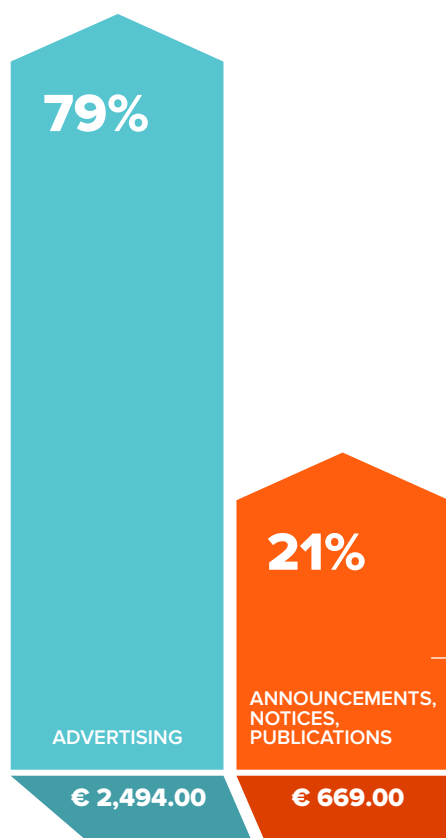


Fig. 13. Municipality of Podujeva

In 2016, this municipality spent **€3,163.00** in total. Of which **€669.00** were spent on announcements, notices, publications and **€2,494.00** on advertising. Four media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Podujeva.

Based on PPRC publications, on 16.05.2016 the Municipality of Podujeva signed a contract for publication with a media outlet / newspaper, in the amount of **€3,080.00**. The duration of this contract is 24 months.

Municipality of Skenderaj

14. Municipality of Skenderaj

In 2016, this municipality spent **€9,094.70**, but the expenses are not divided into categories. Five media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Skenderaj.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Skenderaj, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.



Fig. 14. Municipality of Skenderaj



15. Municipality of Drenas

In 2016, this municipality spent **€1,698.00** on announcements, notices and publications, and **€1,849.00** on broadcasting Municipal Assembly sessions. In total, the Municipality of Drenas spent **€3,547.00**. Four (4) media outlets have received payments from this municipality.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Drenas, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.

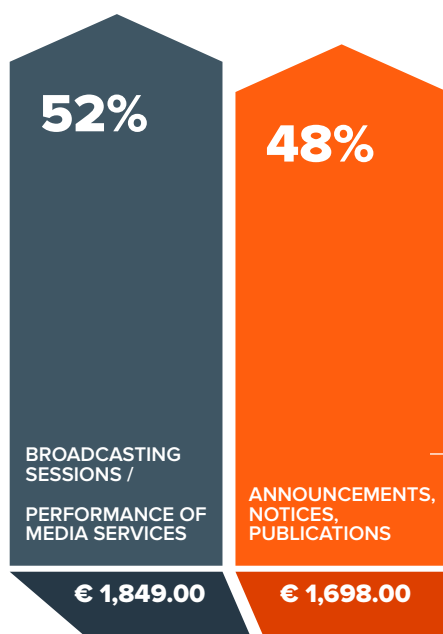


Fig. 15. Municipality of Drenas

Municipality of Fushe Kosova

16. Municipality of Fushe Kosova

In 2016, this municipality spent **€1,980.00** on announcements, notices and publications. Only one media outlet/newspaper has received payments from the Municipality of Fushe Kosova.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Fushe Kosova, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.



Fig. 16. Municipality of Fushe Kosova

17. Municipality of Dragash



In 2016, this municipality spent **€5,725.00** on broadcasting municipal assembly sessions. Two media outlets/local radios have received payments from the Municipality of Dragash.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Dragash, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.

Fig. 17. Municipality of Dragash

18. Municipality of Han i Elezit

In 2016, this municipality spent **€1,410.00** on advertising. Three media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Han i Elezit.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Han i Elezit, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.



Fig. 18. Municipality of Han i Elezit

19. Municipality of Junik



In 2016, this municipality spent **€1,300.00** on announcements, notices and publications. Three media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Junik.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Junik, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.

Fig. 19. Municipality of Junik



20. Municipality of Lipjan

In 2016, this municipality spent **€5,635.95**, of which **€3,935.95** on announcements, notices and publications, and **€200.00** on advertising, while providing subsidies (financial assistance) to a local media outlet in the amount of **€1,500.00**. Four media outlets have received payments, and one has received subsidies from the Municipality of Lipjan.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Lipjan, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.

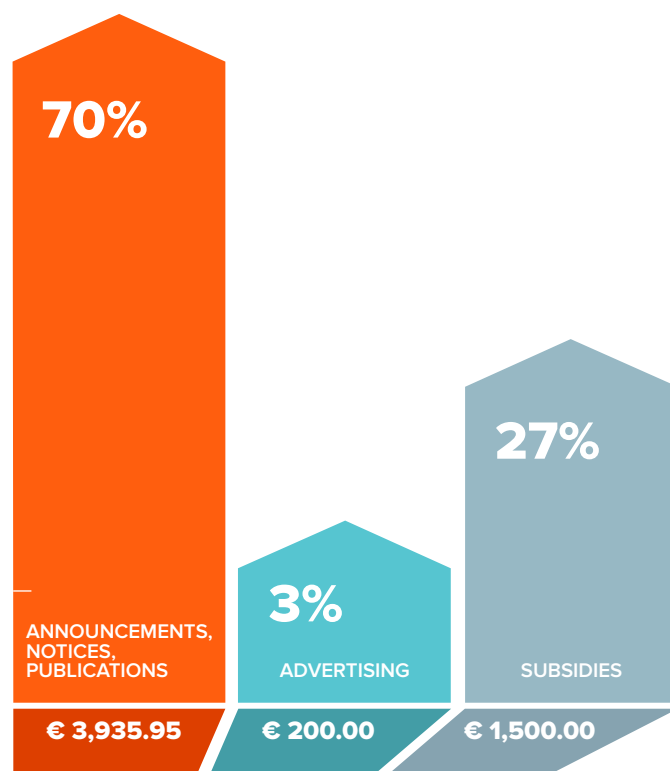


Fig. 20. Municipality of Lipjan

21. Municipality of Mamusha



In 2016, this municipality spent **€100,00** on announcements, notices and publications. Only one media outlet has received payments from the Municipality of Mamusha.

Fig. 21. Municipality of Mamusha

22. Municipality of Obiliq

In 2016, this municipality spent **€2,400.00** on announcements, notices and publications. Only one media outlet has received payments from the Municipality of Obiliq.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Obiliq, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.



Fig. 22. Municipality of Obiliq

23. Municipality of Shtime



In 2016, this municipality spent **€2,520.00** on announcements, notices and publications. Only one local media outlet has received payments from the Municipality of Shtime.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded from the Municipality of Shtime, this municipality disclosed to the public the contract for advertisements and publications in the amount of € 2,000.00 with the local media outlet. This contract was signed on 15.03.2016 and expired on 31.12.2016.

Fig. 23. Municipality of Shtime



24. Municipality of Kamenica

In 2016, this municipality spent **€1,140.00** on announcements, notices and publications, and **€2,000.00** on advertising. Three (3) media outlets have received payments from the Municipality of Kamenica. In total, the Municipality of Kamenica spent **€3,140.00**.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Kamenica, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.

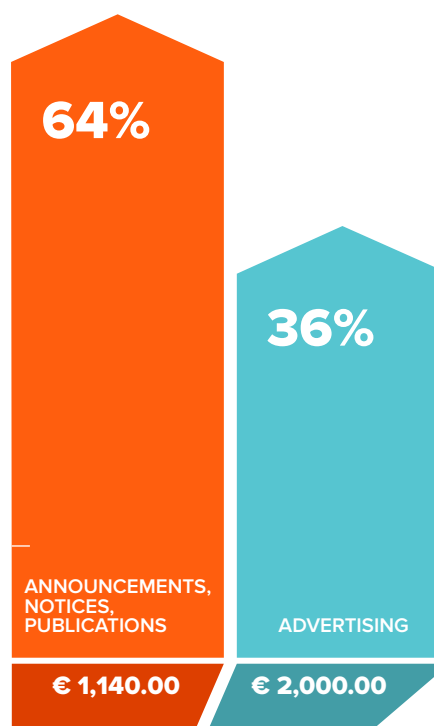


Fig. 24. Municipality of Kamenica

25. Municipality of Klina



In 2016, this municipality spent **€1,800.00**. This municipality did not categorize the expenses. Only one media outlet has received payments from the Municipality of Klina.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Klina, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.

Fig. 25. Municipality of Klina



26. Municipality of Rahovec

In 2016, this municipality spent **€7,356.00**. The municipality of Rahovec did not publish the names of the media outlets and did not categorize the reasons for spending these funds.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Rahovec, this municipality disclosed to the public the contract with a news agency, signed on 92.09.2016 in the amount of **€8,856.00**. The duration of this contract is 12 months.



Fig. 26. Municipality of Rahovec

27. Municipality of Deçan



In 2016, this municipality spent **€475,00** on announcements, notices and publications. Only one media outlet/radio has received payments from the Municipality of Deçan.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Deçan, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.

Fig. 27. Municipality of Deçan

28. Municipality of Novoberda

In 2016, this municipality spent **€300,00** on announcements, notices and publications. Only one local media outlet/local broadcaster has received payments from the Municipality of Novoberda.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Novoberda, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.



Fig. 28. Municipality of Novoberda

Municipality of Gračanica

29. Municipality of Gračanica



In 2016, this municipality spent **€836.00** on announcements, notices and publications. Two media outlets/local radios have received payments from the Municipality of Gračanica.

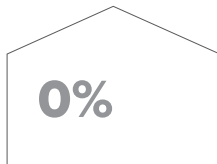
Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Municipality of Gračanica, no public tender for public information services for this municipality in 2016 has been found.

Fig. 29. Municipality of Gračanica

Municipality of Kaçanik

30. Municipality of Kaçanik

This municipality announced that it did not spend any funding on public information in 2016.



Central Level Institutions

b) Central Level Institutions

This section analyzes the data from the Office of the President, the Office of the Prime Minister, the Assembly of Kosovo and the Ministries of the Government of Kosovo (with the exception of those that did not respond). This section's graphs display all expenditures for each institution and guide the analysis of the data collected during the survey.

It is worth pointing out that four of a total of nineteen Kosovo Government ministries did not provide any response regarding their spending in 2016, while one ministry sent different data from those requested. Although the AJK filed four consecutive requests for access to public documents, we received no response from these ministries. The institutions that did not respond are; the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and the Ministry of Trade and Industry. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Internal Affairs sent different data from those requested.

Based on the analysis of the data collected by the Office of the President, the Assembly of Kosovo, the Office of the Prime Minister

and the Ministries of the Government of Kosovo, there are four main categories of expenditures of these institutions: The main categories of expenditure for each institution are divided as follows:

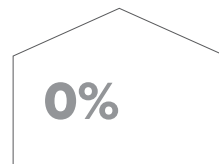
- Announcements, notices, publications;
- Advertising
- No category
- Subsidies

These data are analyzed and presented in the graphs below.

The Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Ministry of Trade and Industry did not provide any response, while the Ministry of Internal Affairs sent data that are unrelated to AJK's request.

1. Office of the President

"In 2016, this institution did not forward any payment to domestic media or foreign media for public information services".⁷



⁷ Florent Rrahmi, e-mail to the author on 27.04.2017

2. Kosovo Assembly



In 2016, the Kosovo Assembly spent **€6,662.55** on announcements, notices and competitions. Five media outlets have received payments from this institution.

Fig. 2. Assembly of the Republic of Kosovo

Office of the Prime Minister



3. Office of the Prime Minister

This office disclosed it has a contract for publications with one media outlet / newspaper, in the value of **€3,090.00**. According to the Office of the Prime Minister, the monetary value concerns the period between 22.07.2015 and 14.04.2017. The 2016 share of expenses of the Office of the Prime Minister amounts to approximately **€1,545.00**. Only one media outlet has received payments from the Office of the Prime Minister.

Meanwhile, based on the PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Office of the Prime Minister, on 08.06.2015 this office signed a contract with a media outlet in the amount of **€4,180.00**.

In addition, in 2016 the Office for Communities in the Office of the Prime Minister, extended grants to 35 media outlets and NGOs (a number of them were media operating as registered NGOs) mainly from non-Albanian communities, in particular from the Serb community, in the amount of **€188,000.00**.⁸In total, the Office of the Prime Minister spent **€189,545.00** on publications and grants in 2016.



Fig. 3. Office of the Prime Minister

⁸<https://qzk.rks-gov.net/ActDocumentDetail.aspx?ActID=2524>

Ministry of Public Administration

4. Ministry of Public Administration



In 2016, this ministry spent **€7,595.00** on announcements, notices, publications and congratulatory messages. Eight media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of Public Administration.

Meanwhile, based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of Public Administration, no public tender for public information services for this ministry in 2016 has been found.

Fig. 4. Ministry of Public Administration

Ministry of Local Government Administration

5. Ministry of Local Government Administration

In 2016, this ministry spent **€1,770.05** on advertising and competitions. Four media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of Local Government Administration.

Based on the data on PPRC's website, on 19.02.2016 this ministry signed a contract for advertising and competitions with a medium / newspaper, in the value of about **€2,000.00**. The price per unit of this contract is **€161.00**. The duration of this contract is 12 months.



Fig. 5. Ministry of Local Government Administration

6. Ministry of Justice



In 2016, this ministry spent **€4,773.43** on announcements, notices and publications. Four media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of Justice.

Meanwhile, based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of Justice, no public tender for public information services for this ministry in 2016 has been found.

Fig. 6. Ministry of Justice

7. Ministry of Finance

In 2016, this ministry spent **€8,847.00** on announcements, notices and publications. Five media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of Finance.

Meanwhile, based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of Finance, no public tender for public information services for this ministry in 2016 has been found.



Fig. 7. Ministry of Finance

Ministry of the Kosovo Security Force

8. Ministry of the Kosovo Security Force

In 2016, this ministry spent a total of **€33,162.60** on public information, of which **€31,374.10** were spent on announcements, notices, publications, and **€1,788.50** on advertising and competitions. Six media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of the Kosovo Security Force.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of the Kosovo Security Force, on 22.06.2015 this ministry signed a contract with 15 media outlets on performing electronic and print media services for the needs of the MKSF and KSF in the amount of **€30,000.00**. The duration of this contract was 24 months.

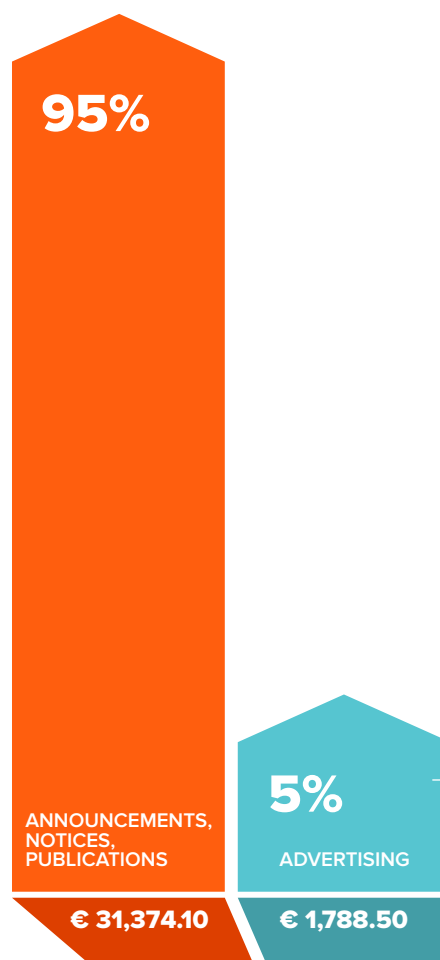


Fig. 8. Ministry of the Kosovo Security Force

9. Ministry of Infrastructure

In 2016, this ministry spent **€7,995.00** on announcements, notices and publications. Eight media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of Infrastructure.

Meanwhile, based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of Infrastructure, no public tender for public information services for this ministry in 2016 has been found.



Fig. 9. Ministry of Infrastructure

10. Ministry of European Integration

In 2016, this ministry spent **€6,822.00**, of which **€2,872.00** on advertising, announcements, notices, publications and **€3,950.00** on uncategorized costs. One media outlet has received payments from the Ministry of European Integration.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of European Integration, on 04.11.2016 this ministry signed a contract for publications with a media outlet/ newspaper in the amount of **€1,510.00**. The duration of the contract is not determined on this publication.

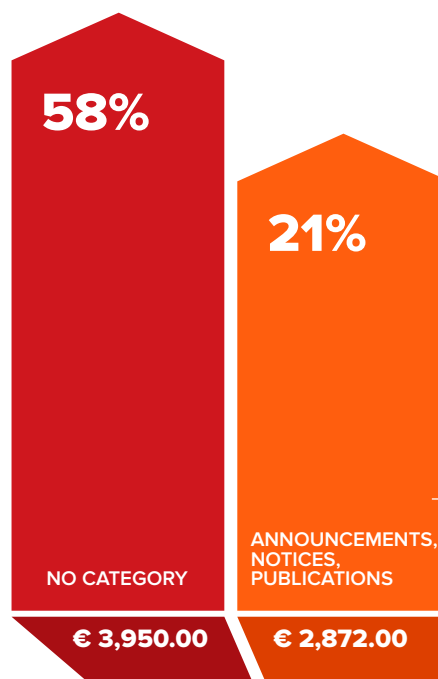


Fig. 10. Ministry of European Integration

Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports



11. Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports

In 2016, this ministry spent **€29,673.12** on announcements, notices and publications. Eight media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, on 07/07/2015 this ministry signed a contract for the coverage of ministry activities with a media outlet / news agency in the amount of **€9,600.00**. The duration of this contract is not determined.



Fig. 11. Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports

Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning



12. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

In total, the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning spent **€58,670.30** on public information in 2016. It spent **€53,836.50** on announcements, notices and publications, and **€4,833.80** on advertising. The Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning did not disclose the names or the number of media outlets that have received the payments.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, on 04.11.2016 this ministry signed a contract for publications with a media outlet/ newspaper, with the price per unit set at **€223.50**. This contract award notice does not specify the total number of units or the duration of this contract.

Also, based on the PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, on 03.03.2016 this ministry signed a contract with a media outlet / news agency, with the price per unit set at €300.00, for (media services) video-recordings of public activities of the Ministry of Environment and Spatial

Planning. This contract award notice does not determine the number of units (media services) carried out by the contracted medium for the MESP. The duration of this contract was 12 months.

Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning



12. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning



Fig. 12. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare

13. Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare

In 2016, this ministry spent **€5,400.00**, which it did not categorize. Three media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare.

It is noteworthy that no public tender issued by this ministry in 2016 for public information services has been found in PPRC's publications



Fig. 13. Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare

Ministry of Economic Development



14. Ministry of Economic Development

Based on the collected data, in 2016 this ministry spent a total of **€19,299.00**. Most of this amount was spent on advertising, specifically **€14,552.00**. On announcements, notices and publications it spent **€4,774.00**. Fourteen media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of Economic Development.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of Economic Development, on 28.02.2016 this ministry signed a contract with a media outlet / news agency in the amount of €3.945.00 for the preparation of video reports from meetings and activities of the Ministry of Economic Development. The duration of this contract is 24 months.

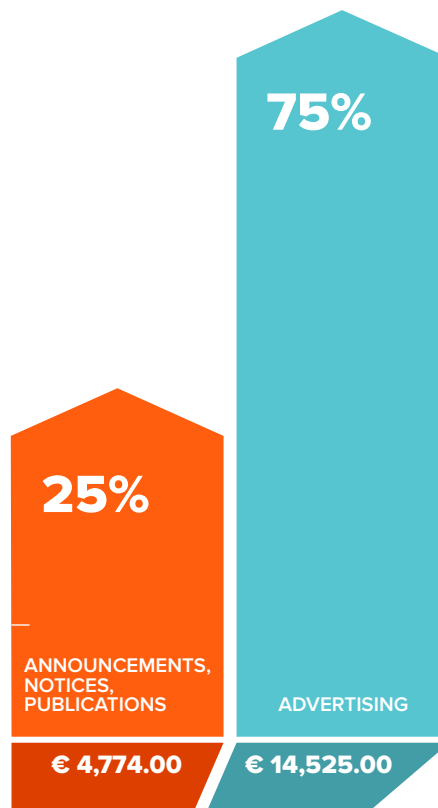


Fig. 14. Ministry of Economic Development

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development

15. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development

In 2016 this ministry spent **€54,567.19**. It is worth mentioning that regardless of the considerable amount spent, this ministry has not categorized these expenses. 39 media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development.

Based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development, on March 18, 2015, this ministry signed a contract with a media outlet / news agency in the amount of €10,000.00 and unit price of €430.00 for coverage of media activities. The contract award notice does not specify the number of units or the duration of the contract.



Fig. 15. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development

Ministry of Returns and Communities

16. Ministry of Returns and Communities

In 2016, this ministry spent **€200.00** on announcements, notices, publications and congratulatory messages. One media outlet has received payments from this ministry.



Fig. 16. Ministry of Returns and Communities

17. Ministry of the Diaspora

In 2016, this ministry spent a total of **€3,986.00**, of which **€186.00** on advertising and competitions. It has also allocated subsidies (financial assistance) in the amount of **€3,800.00**.⁹ Three media outlets have received payments from the Ministry of the Diaspora, one for advertising and services, and two diaspora media outlets have been subsidized.

Meanwhile, based on PPRC's publication of tenders awarded by the Ministry of the Diaspora, no public tender for public information services for this ministry in 2016 has been found.



Fig. 17. Ministry of the Diaspora

⁹ <https://gzk.rks-gov.net/ActDocumentDetail.aspx?ActID=2524>

Conclusions and Recommendations

IV. Conclusions and Recommendations

The analysis of the data of local government institutions, reveals that in 2016, municipalities spent about **€373,161.67** on public information. The number of media that have received payments from these institutions is about fifty. The municipality that spent the most on public information in 2016 is the Municipality of Ferizaj, with **€106,280.00**. Meanwhile, the municipality that spent nothing on public information is the Municipality of Kaçanik.

Based on the data analyzed above, in 2016, central level institutions of the Republic of Kosovo spent about **€250,968.69** on public information, to which are added **€188,000** in grants from the Office of the Prime Minister for 35 media outlets and NGOs in the same period. In total, central level institutions spent approximately **€438,968.69** in direct payments and subsidies or grants to media outlets.

The number of media outlets that have received payments from central institutions is about fifty. The central institution that spent the most on publications and grants in 2016 is the Office of the Prime Minister with **€189,545.00**. Meanwhile, the ministry that

spent the least on public information is the Ministry of Returns and Communities, with only **€200.00**.

In 2016, local and central government public institutions spent approximately **€624,130.36**, to which are added **€188,000** in grants from the Office of the Prime Minister. A total of **€812,130.36** have been paid spent on media services by the institutions of the country, partially through grants and subsidies.

Kosovo's 2016 budget was 1 billion 674 million Euros. Meanwhile, the amount spent by state institutions on public information and media subsidies or grants in 2016 amounts to **€812,130.36**. Based on the ratio between the country's 2016 budget and the expenditure of institutions on public information over the same period, 0.05% of the country's 2016 budget was spent on public information by local and central institutions.

Conclusions and Recommendations

IV. Conclusions and Recommendations

In analyzing the data of the "Public Money Spent in the Media" Report, the Association of Journalists of Kosovo noted some irregularities related to expenditures on public information, by both central and local institutions. In order to have a more transparent situation regarding these expenditures it is very important for Kosovo institutions to take into account the following recommendations.

- 1. Institutions should establish a clearer categorization/classification of all public information expenses, including subsidies or grants awarded to media outlets.*
- 2. Any contract concluded for the purpose of public information between any institution and any media outlet should be published on PPRC's website.*
- 3. Local and central institutions should provide timely information on the opening of tendering procedures in the field of public information, which would create equal opportunities for all media outlets, both local and national, to apply for the provision of media services.*
- 4. Institutions should demonstrate transparency, accountability and impartiality during media selection procedures for the performance of media services.*
- 5. Local and central institutions should be more prudent, more accountable and transparent in spending public money on public information, and not only.*
- 6. Institutions should process in timely manner and according to legal deadlines the requests for access to public documents and should be more efficient and open in providing responses on matters of public interest.*

Local level institutions

Central Level Institutions



Association of Journalists of Kosovo (AJK)

Luan Haradinaj 100/10
10000 Pristina
Republic of Kosovo

www.agk-ks.org

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK
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