

31

Jan 2019

⚠ Lvl. 2

State replied

Hungary

n° 130/2018

Alert created on: 22 Nov 2018

## Media Council Refuses to Renew Broadcasting Licences of Two Radio Stations


SOURCE OF THREAT ▶ State

CATEGORY  ▶ Other acts having chilling effects on media freedom

**PARTNER: Index**

Two commercial radio stations, Music FM and Sláger FM, will be forced to close down after the Media Council refused to renew their broadcasting licences, which are due to expire in February 2019. Both Music FM and Sláger FM are popular stations enjoying audience figures of between 300 and 500 thousand listeners a day, and their closure will mean there are no popular commercial stations left that are not owned by close associates of the Hungarian government. The Hungarian media authority NMHH said their licences were not being renewed because both stations had committed "serious violations" of the media law by failing to observe child protection regulations.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

-  [HVG.hu report: "Megszűnik a Music FM és a Sláger FM" \[Music FM and Sláger FM to cease\]](#)
-  [HVG.hu report: "Sláger és Music FM elhallgattatása: gyermekek védelmével és díjtartozással indokol az NMHH" \[Silencing of Sláger and Music FM: NMHH cites child protection and payment of fees as reasons\]](#)
-  [Mapping Media Freedom report: "Hungary: Two commercial radio stations set to close"](#)

### STATE REPLIES



**31 Jan 2019** | Reply from the Hungarian authorities (information from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade)

 [Letter from the Permanent Representation of Hungary to the Council of Europe](#)

