



REGERINGSKANSLIET

Memorandum

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Ministry of Culture

103 33 Stockholm. Sweden

Inquiry on

Non-commercial Local Radio and Television

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**Access Broadcasting -
Inquiry on Non-commercial Local Radio and Television**

Along with public service broadcasting and private commercial broadcasting in Sweden non-commercial local radio stations are operating in 165 cities and non-commercial local cable television in 31 cities. This type of broadcasting is internationally known as community radio and community/ public access television or "open channels".

This inquiry will analyse the future conditions for non-commercial local broadcasting. It is the first time in since the 60's that radio and television in Sweden has been jointly observed and analysed.

The development of efficient digital technique, for both production and for transmission will be of vital importance for radio and television, which in Sweden mostly is operated on a non-profit basis by NGO's. The inquiry will look into relevant aspects of digital broadcasting.

Access broadcasting might be of great importance in order to vitalize and foster the democratic dialogue. Attention will be paid to the aspects of freedom of speech as a central role for those channels. Connected to this will be the relation and position of this media sector to public service and commercial broadcasting. Also the importance of access broadcasting for minority groups and for integration will be observed.

Knowledge and experience regarding this media sector in other countries will be acquired. Today, a country like Germany, Holland or the U.S. as well as any other Nordic country is presenting a different solution regarding financing, organisation and regulation of local non-commercial broadcasting.

A final report of the inquiry will be released in August 2004.