Open letter to the authorities of the Republic of Poland and leaders of political groups

We would like to address the announced new additional burden on the media operating on the Polish market, misleadingly called the "contribution", introduced under the pretext of COVID-19.

It is simply a tribute, hitting Polish viewers, listeners, readers and internet users, as well as Polish productions, culture, entertainment, sports and media.

Its introduction will mean:

- 1) weakening or even closure of a part of the media operating in Poland, which will significantly limit the society's ability to choose the content it is interested in,
- 2) limiting opportunities for financing quality and local content. Their production currently supports hundreds of thousands of employees and their families, and provides most Poles with access to information, entertainment and sporting events largely free of charge,
- deepening of the unequal treatment of businesses operating on the Polish media market, in a situation where the state media receive PLN 2,000,000,000 annually from the pocket of each Pole, while private media are to be charged with an additional tribute of PLN 1,000,000,000,
- de facto favouring of companies that do not invest in the creation of Polish, local content at the expense of businesses that invest the most in Poland. According to estimates, companies referred to by the government as "global digital giants" will pay only about PLN 50,000,000–100,000,000 for the tribute, compared to PLN 800,000,000 paid by other locally active media.

The asymmetrical and selective burden imposed on businesses is also scandalous. In addition, it is unacceptable in a state governed by the rule of law to attempt to change license conditions during their period of validity.

As the media operating in Poland for many years, we do not shrink our duties and social responsibility. Every year we pay an increasing number of taxes, levies and fees to the state budget (CIT, VAT, emission, copyright, licences, frequencies, booking decisions, VOD fees, etc.). We also support the weakest groups in our society with our own charitable activities. We

support Poles, as well as the government, in the fight against the pandemic, both in terms of information and by allocating resources worth hundreds of millions of zlotys.

Therefore, we strongly oppose the use of the pandemic as a pretext to introduce yet another new, exceptionally heavy burden on the media - a burden that will be permanent and will survive the COVID-19 pandemic.

Agencja Wydawnicza AGARD Ryszard Music TV sp. z o.o.

Pajura Muzo.fm sp. z o.o.

Agora S.A. naTemat.pl

AMS S.A. Polityka

Bonnier Business Polska Press Grupa

Burda Media Polska Ringier Axel Springer Polska

Canal + STAVKA Sp. z o.o.

Dziennik Trybuna Superstacja sp. z o.o.

Dziennik Wschodni Telewizja Polsat sp. z o.o.

Edipresse Polska Telewizja Puls Sp. z o.o.

Eleven Sports Network sp. z o.o. TIME S.A.

Gazeta Radomszczańska TV Spektrum sp. z o.o.

Green Content Sp. z o.o. TVN S.A.

Gremi Media S.A.

Tygodnik Powiatu Wołowskiego Kurier

Grupa Eurozet Gmin

Grupa Interia.pl sp. z. o.o.

Tygodnik Powszechny

Grupa Radiowa Agory Sp. z o.o. Wydawnictwo Bauer

Grupa ZPR Wydawnictwo Dominika Księskiego

Helios S.A. Wulkan

Infor Biznes Wydawnictwo Magraf

Kino Polska TV S.A. Wydawnictwo Nowiny

Lemon Records sp. z o.o. Zakopiańskie Towarzystwo Gospodarcze –

Tygodnik Podhalański Marshal Academy