

MEASURES CONCERNING ACCESS OF VISUALLY AND HEARING-IMPAIRED PEOPLE TO TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

Lithuania

Law on Provision of Information to the Public Article 34 stipulates:

„Radio and television broadcasts transmitted in a language other than Lithuanian, must be translated into Lithuanian or presented with Lithuanian subtitles, excepting instructional, special occasion, special and retransmitted foreign state radio and television broadcasts or programmes, as well as broadcasts produced by the broadcaster and intended for ethnic minorities of Lithuania. The Radio and Television Commission of Lithuania may establish in licensing conditions the portion of broadcast and (or) rebroadcast programmes in the languages of national minorities, within the total broadcaster's programmes, taking into account also the needs of the national minorities residing within the broadcast programme coverage zone.“

There is no any other provisions concerned subtitling, audio description or sign language in Lithuanian law. Broadcasters usually use dubbing for the foreign programmes and films. It is their right to decide which method to use. Subtitling is mostly used for the programmes and films in Russian language and music programmes or films.

Lithuanian Public Service Broadcaster („Lithuanian National Radio and Television“) under their agreement with Disabled People Association is the only one using sign language for the two news programmes every day and four other programmes every week.