

## Abstract

### **SMEs Test of Increasing Payments for Public Services Provided by the Radio and Television of Slovakia**

**Act No. 340/2012 Coll. on Payments for Public Services Provided by the Radio and Television of Slovakia** (hereinafter referred to as Act) sets the duty of paying for public services (hereinafter referred to as Payments to Radio and Television of Slovakia) to employers **with at least three employees** or persons in a similar labour relationship **upon the number of such persons employed**.

In April 2016, the Ministry of Culture of the SR (hereinafter referred to as Ministry) published the preliminary information, the Act should be amended in accordance with. The role of the Better Regulation Center is **to perform evaluation and quantification of impacts of proposed legal regulations that did not yet come into effect** as well as of the existing and effective ones **with the accent on micro-, small, and medium enterprises** (SMEs). This process also includes the **effect** evaluation or **the so-called gold-plating**, i.e. overlap of the transposition of EU legal requirements in the Slovak law beyond the scope required by the Directive.

The amendment was aimed at:

- **increasing payment rates** significantly for all payers, viz. **of 50%**,
- establishing a legal authorization for the Ministry of Culture of the SR for the future **revision of payment rates for the Radio and Television of Slovakia in the form of a regulation**,
- **extending** the program services **offered** of a new program service,
- establishing a public service broadcasting **financing evaluation Committee**.

In compliance with its mission, the Better Regulation Center therefore elaborated **an ex-ante evaluation** in the form of **the SMEs Test**, in which it concluded that

1. **costs of Slovak SMEs would increase of 3.5 million Euros a year** due to the amendment;
2. the regulation subject to the assessment **did not transpose any legal act of the European Union's bodies**;

The SMEs Test includes a detailed analysis of provisions of the amendment, **quantification of their impacts on SMEs**, and, at the same time, **offers alternative solutions for reducing such burden** - from particular **consulting entities from among SMEs** – as well as inspired by **best practices resulted from the international comparison**. Eventually, the amendment **has not been approved**.