



# **The Swedish Radio and TV Authority**

A national authority for the media sector



# ” The aim of the Radio and TV Authority

The aim of the Radio and TV Authority is to promote the possibilities of diversity in radio and television broadcasting by being responsible for all licensing under the special legislation on radio and television transmissions to the general public, insofar as these tasks do not devolve on the Government or any other specially appointed authority.

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The Swedish Radio and TV Authority is a government authority in the media field. We work under the Ministry of Culture and have a Director-General as the head of our organisation. The Authority has some 20 employees. Our area of operations covers licensing, supervision and media monitoring. The Authority is divided into three divisions:

- the Licensing Division
- the Supervision and Investigation Division
- the Administrative Division







# Licensing

The Licensing Division is divided into three units: Radio, TV and Internet.

## Licences

The Licensing Division grants licences for community and local radio broadcasting as well as temporary licences, and appoints local cable broadcasters. For terrestrial digital TV the Authority processes applications and makes recommendations to the Government concerning the distribution of licences. The Licensing Division issues certificates of no legal impediment to publication for websites etc.

## Registration

The Licensing Division registers responsible editors and designations of radio and TV broadcasters in Sweden. Satellite, cable, web radio and web TV broadcasters register their activities with the Authority. This registration gives us a register listing all Swedish radio and TV stations.

## Fees

Local radio stations and TV4 pay an annual licence fee. The Licensing Division handles these fees for broadcasting licences and also deals with special fees.

## Regulations

The Division issues regulations on broadcasting standards for TV services and reception equipment.





# Supervision and Investigation

The Division consists of a Supervision Unit and an Investigation Unit.

## Supervision

The Supervision Unit works on the supervision of radio, TV, standards and certificates of no legal impediment to publication for websites. The Authority ensures that certain rules and the broadcasting licences are followed. The Authority can take action to make broadcasters follow various regulations.

## Investigation

In 1998 the Authority was given the task of following developments in media and increasing knowledge in the area. Media monitoring focuses on radio, TV, industry structure and media policy. This task has resulted in an annual publication on media development (*Medieutveckling*, i.e. *Media Developments*). The book has received a lot of attention and is used as a reference work on the situation in the Swedish media by the public, people in the industry and students.

Since 2003 the Authority has had the task of following the development of electronic programme guides and application programme interfaces and of encouraging the transition to a common standard. A report on this work is delivered to the Government in May each year. At the beginning of 2006 the Authority was given the task of producing information for a continuous assessment of different methods for digital radio distribution. The task is for a three-year period and in June 2006 the Authority presented the report *Framtidens radio – delrapport 1 (Radio of the Future – interim report 1)*.



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# Further information

## The website

The Authority's website [www.rtv.se](http://www.rtv.se) offers visitors information on how to apply for radio and television broadcasting licences, as well as current information on the media situation today. Visitors to the website can also search the Authority's register of all radio and TV broadcasters in Sweden.

## Reports, newsletters and brochures

The Authority publishes a number of reports each year, including the annual report on media development (*Medieutveckling*). Four times a year we distribute the newsletter *Radio och TV-nytt* (*Radio and TV News*) by e-mail. People who want information on how to begin transmitting radio and TV can use the Authority's *Att sända* (*Broadcasting*) brochures.

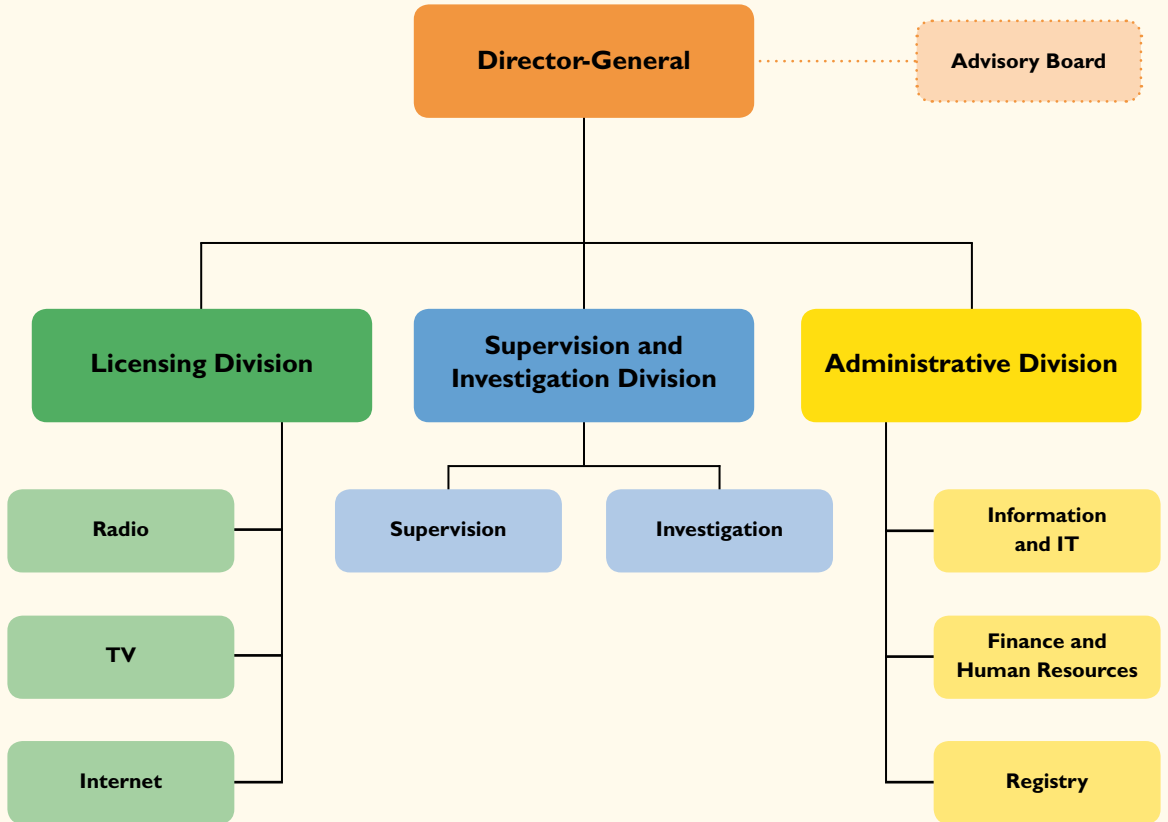
# Facts about radio and TV in Sweden

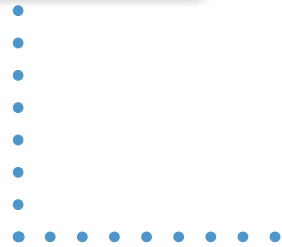
In December 2006 there are

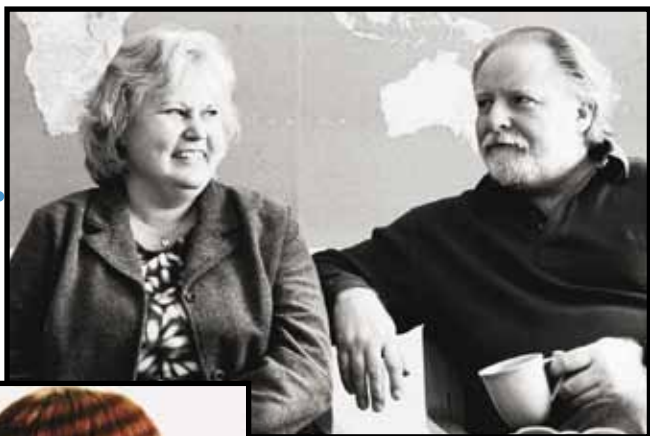
- some 1 030 licences for community radio transmissions
- 90 licences for private local radio stations
- 29 local cable transmission companies appointed
- 86 cable transmission companies registered
- 26 broadcasters transmitting by satellite registered
- 25 broadcasters with permission to broadcast in the digital terrestrial network



# Organization







# History of the Radio and TV Authority

- **1 July 1994** – The Swedish Radio and TV Authority is formed.
- **1 July 1998** – The Authority is given the task of following media developments and handling applications for terrestrial digital TV.
- **15 May 2000** – Björn Rosén becomes the Authority's Director-General.
- **4 September 2003** – The Authority is given the task of following the development of electronic programme guides and application programmes and of encouraging the transition to a common standard.
- **2005** – The Authority prepares its own model for work on health issues. The guiding principle for the Authority's health work is to make the Authority a healthy workplace, characterised by openness, well-being and job satisfaction.
- **25 October 2005** – The Authority is awarded the Swedish National Financial Management Authority's diploma as the best government agency in the category Authorities with a high turnover.
- **19 January 2006** – The Authority is given the task of following the development of the digital distribution of radio and producing information for a continuous assessment of different methods.
- **13 April 2006** – A new organisation is launched with the Authority divided into three divisions:
  - The Licensing Division; Head of Division Kerstin Morast
  - The Supervision and Investigation Division; Head of Division Peter Schierbeck
  - The Administrative Division; Head of Division Peter Schierbeck



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