

MEDIA

SUSTAINABILITY

INDEX

2004



IREX

GIVEN THE ONGOING INFLUENCE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND RULING CIRCLES ON THE MEDIA, BOTH IN TERMS OF CONTENT AND BUSINESS PRACTICES, AND THE LIMITED PROTECTION AFFORDED IN PRACTICE BY AZERBAIJAN'S MEDIA LAWS, THE 2004 MSI PANEL ASSESSED THE MEDIA ENVIRONMENT AS STATIC DURING THE YEAR.





The ruling powers in Azerbaijan spent 2004 concentrating authority around the new president, Ilham Aliyev, who had taken over the office the previous year after the death of his father. Although the 2003 election was considered rife with irregularities by international observers, it left the Aliyev family's New Azerbaijani Party (YAP) firmly in control. The president appears as something of a shadow of his father and has surrounded himself with his parents' clique. Ramiz Mehdiyev, the head of the presidential apparatus, wields significant power, and although he does have some opposition, most Cabinet members answer directly to him. The opposition parties are so fragmented that they carry very little political influence.

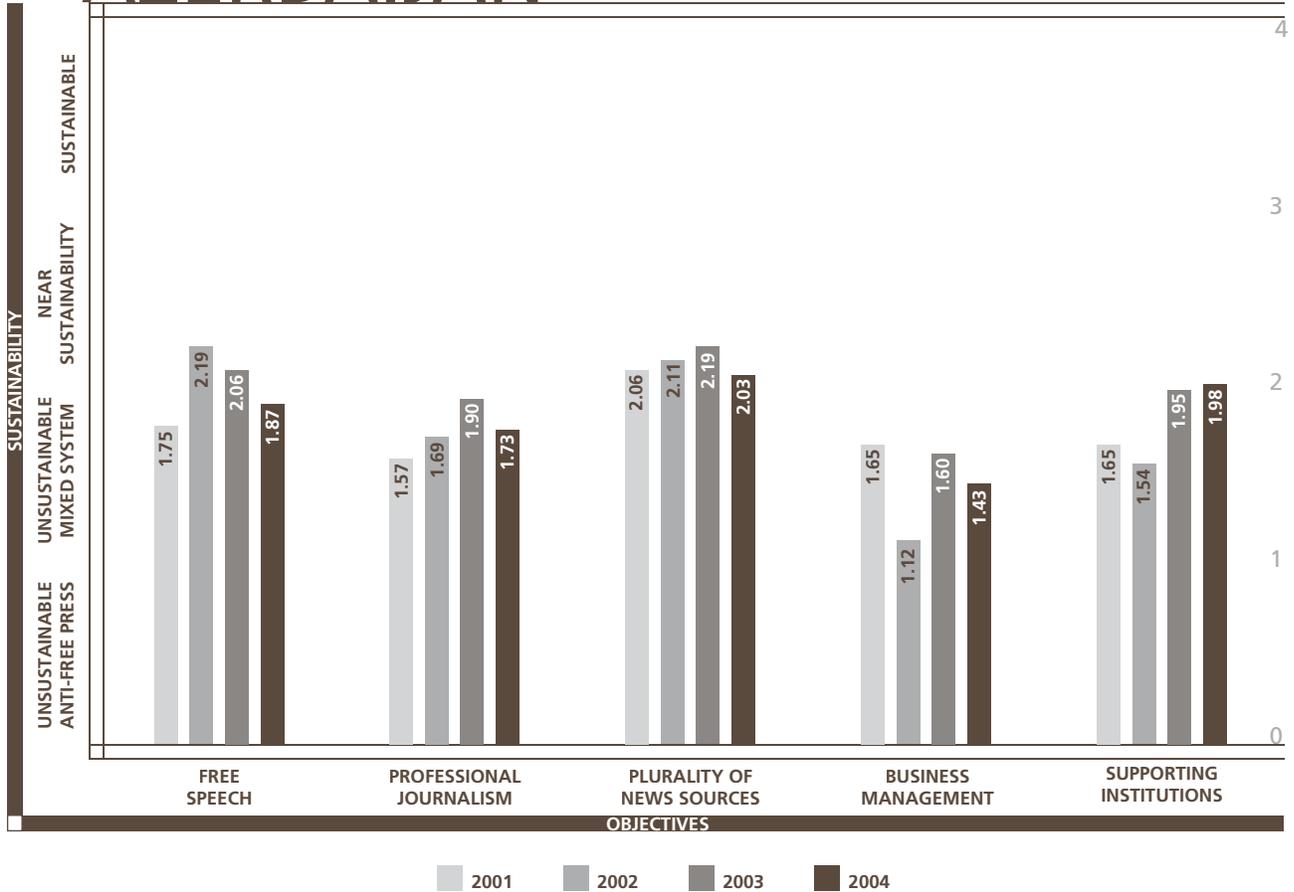
Those in power appear to be awaiting the flow of cash from the country's oil reserves. The anticipated windfall of \$68 billion will begin with the completion of the Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan (BTC) pipeline carrying oil from the Caspian Sea to the Mediterranean, supposedly by the end of 2005. The government has yet to announce how the country will benefit from the oil money, and while some Azerbaijanis are hoping for jobs, many of them are resigned to the richer getting richer and the poor remaining that way.

The media in Azerbaijan operate in a difficult environment, particularly vis-à-vis the government. According to one ranking official, the government regards the opposition press essentially as traitors and the organizations that fund them as agitators.¹ Members of the opposition print organizations are reprimanded and harassed, and sometimes beaten or jailed. For example, the Ministry of Defense detained a reporter from one of the opposition papers who wrote a story about the poor conditions at the military barracks at a border fortification. When the journalist refused to retract the story, he was taken bodily to meet with the commandant of the fort and held for several hours until he wrote an apology.

¹ Ali M. Hasanov, head of the government's Social-Political Department, in an interview with the IREX media-support program chief of party and USAID on September 23, 2004

MEDIA SUSTAINABILITY INDEX

AZERBAIJAN



Unsustainable, Anti-Free Press (0-1): Country does not meet or only minimally meets objectives. Government and laws actively hinder free media development, professionalism is low, and media-industry activity is minimal.

Unsustainable Mixed System (1-2): Country minimally meets objectives, with segments of the legal system and government opposed to a free media system. Evident progress in free-press advocacy, increased professionalism, and new media businesses may be too recent to judge sustainability.

Near Sustainability (2-3): Country has progressed in meeting multiple objectives, with legal norms, professionalism, and the business environment supportive of independent media. Advances have survived changes in government and have been codified in law and practice. However, more time may be needed to ensure that change is enduring and that increased professionalism and the media business environment are sustainable.

Sustainable (3-4): Country has media that are considered generally professional, free, and sustainable, or to be approaching these objectives. Systems supporting independent media have survived multiple governments, economic fluctuations, and changes in public opinion or social conventions.

The electronic media, where most Azerbaijanis get their news, voice no critical or controversial viewpoints because, at least in the capital city of Baku, all of the television stations are controlled directly by members of the current government, members of their families, or ardent supporters. According to various sources and the 2004 Media Sustainability Index (MSI) panel, Lider TV is owned by Adalat Aliyev, cousin of the president; ANS TV is owned by Vahid Mustafayev, a supporter of the government in the 2003 elections; Space TV is owned by Sevi Aliyev, the president's sister; and ATV was founded by the wife of Ali Hasanov, head of the Social-Political Department of the government. In addition, there are two state-owned channels, AZTV1 and AZTV2.

Data provided by Arif Aliyev, chairman of the journalist organization Yeni Nesil, show that 130 regular news publications—either dailies or weeklies—are available to the Azerbaijani public. The Yeni Nesil report states that 98 (75.4 percent) are either government published or pro-government in their editorial policy; 22 (16.9 percent) are opposition, and only 10 (7.7 percent) could be considered independent.

The broadcast community is also limited in its ability to provide independent coverage. In addition to the main outlets in the capital being largely under the influence of the ruling party, regional broadcasters have limited their approach to allowing criticism of anything government related. Regional stations have the additional hardship of operating under the scrutiny of the unelected Executive Committees (EXCOM), which by some measure is the real government for their areas. The EXCOM members are appointed by the federal government and have unofficial oversight for everything that happens within a district, including the media. For example, the EXCOM turned down a broadcast-license application made by the Center for Independent Journalists in Ganja without providing any justification from the regulatory statutes, according to the center, which provides training for regional journalists.

There are nine television stations in the regions and one that is transitioning from a state to a private channel. These outlets, in addition to the four in the capital city, have another major problem: None of them has a license to broadcast. According to the current law, broadcasters are not required to obtain licenses. Although lawmakers agree that this loophole was overlooked by mistake in the presidential decree on businesses that requires licenses, they have yet to rectify the situation. The result is the lurking threat that any broadcaster can be closed for any reason on the grounds that it has no license to operate.

Given the ongoing influence of the government and ruling circles on the media, both in terms of content and business practices, and the limited protection afforded in practice by Azerbaijan's media laws, the 2004 MSI panel assessed the media environment as static during the year.

OBJECTIVE 1: FREE SPEECH

Azerbaijan Objective Score: 1.87 / 4.00

Media legislation in Azerbaijan provides for freedom-of-speech protections. However, members of the 2004 MSI panel agreed that, as in many one-time Soviet countries, such laws lack effective implementation. Publishers theoretically can print anything they like, but the consequences for doing so can be severe. For example, two newspapers, *Yeni Musavat* and *Monitor*, have received fines totaling more than a quarter of a million dollars because of articles they have printed. One concerns the medical condition of the former president, Heydar Aliyev, and the other names the

Legal and social norms protect and promote free speech and access to public information.

FREE-SPEECH INDICATORS:

- > Legal/social protections of free speech exist and are enforced.
- > Licensing of broadcast media is fair, competitive, and apolitical.
- > Market entry and tax structure for media are fair and comparable to other industries.
- > Crimes against journalists or media outlets are prosecuted vigorously, but occurrences of such crimes are rare.
- > State or public media do not receive preferential legal treatment, and law guarantees editorial independence.
- > Libel is a civil law issue; public officials are held to higher standards, and the offended party must prove falsity and malice.
- > Public information is easily accessible; right of access to information is equally enforced for all media and journalists.
- > Media outlets have unrestricted access to information; this is equally enforced for all media and journalists.
- > Entry into the journalism profession is free, and government imposes no licensing, restrictions, or special rights for journalists.

brother of the former president as the controlling power at the main company that runs petrol stations in Azerbaijan.

One MSI panelist explained that judging whether legal and social protections of free speech “exist and are enforced” is critical. “The law and its implementation are united. If the existence of the law was presented separately, it could be scored as a 3.5 (out of 4). But the implementation brings the score equal to 0.”

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In 2002, there were very significant changes in the licensing procedures and requirements for businesses in Azerbaijan. The president at the time, Heydar Aliyev, issued a decree reducing

the number of businesses that needed licenses. Broadcasters were inexplicably missing from that list of those requiring a license, and all broadcasting licenses were rescinded because they were no longer deemed relevant. In the two years since the omission, no legislation has provided for licensing. Therefore, radio and television operators are airing programming without legal protection or regulation and are subject to government shutdown at any time.

With no official licensing procedure for the broadcast media, it is possible that new outlets cannot register

“Since the government will not give us any information, we are forced to add our speculation to the rumors we hear,” explained Gabil Abbasoglu.

unless they have political connections. This has yet to be proven since there have been no new broadcasters on the air since the 2002 decree. Avant Garde TV began airing rebroadcasts from

the Russian state broadcaster ORT after 2002, but this station inserts only commercials and no content in Azerbaijan.

At the recommendation of the Council of Europe in relation to Azerbaijan’s accession in 2001, the Azerbaijani government created an agency to oversee broadcasting. The National Television and Broadcasting

Council was formed at the end of 2002 and was tasked with providing rules and regulations for the broadcasters. Among its duties is to validate media programming to ensure that pornography is not aired, to see that citizens’ rights are not violated, and to conduct surveys. The unit is supposed to consist of nine members from various sectors, all named by the president’s office. To date, however, only six have been nominated, the panel has functioned with vacancies, and there has been no indication that the chairman plans to fill the remaining seats. The council can neither impose fees, a function under the control of the Ministerial Council, nor issue licenses.

As a requirement of the Council of Europe, Azerbaijan is converting part of the state broadcast system into public broadcasting. Currently, two television stations operate in the state system. AZTV1 is headquartered in a large complex with 2,000 employees, new equipment, and transmission that reaches the entire country. AZTV2, however, has two rooms, 20 employees, old equipment, and a limited signal. When the Council of Europe made the creation of public television a condition for Azerbaijan’s accession, the government provided AZTV2 with \$1 million but allocated \$14 million to AZTV1.

There are 1,750 registered publications in Azerbaijan, 311 of them registered since the beginning of 2004. Anyone can produce a newspaper, and many people do, including political parties, businesses, and even official government organs. Individuals and groups need only register to join the print media.

Newsprint is a favored commodity, as there is no official import tariff. According to critics familiar with the media industry, however, even though paper arrives free of taxes, the State Customs Committee does ask printing houses to contribute \$200 per truckload to a “special fund.” These critics say that if an outlet chooses not to pay, the publication might not get its supply of paper.

There was no action in 2004 on the assaults of journalists after the October 2003 election results were announced. Videos and photos of the journalists being beaten showed that many of the assaulted journalists wore their press badges. Prosecutions took place, but the plaintiffs were the police who claimed that they were the ones being attacked. No journalist was actually charged, but the charges against the police suddenly vanished from the court dockets. There were 125 people brought to trial after the melee, seven of whom could be considered leaders of the opposition, and scores still are imprisoned, the seven among them. Media have complained that journalists are kidnapped,

threatened, and sometimes beaten, but to date, no charges have been filed against any suspects.

Libel, defamation, and slander all remain within the realm of the penal code in Azerbaijan. Fines are heavy and used to stifle the opposition. Defamation of the president can result in a huge fine and up to seven years in prison. In contrast, slander of an ordinary citizen means two to five years in jail. Meanwhile, courts are unable to determine a clear definition for slander, defamation, or libel, so appealing a judicial decision is ineffective.

Favoritism does exist within Azerbaijan's media sector. A major news agency and the editor of the most widely read newspaper in Azerbaijan complained that their staffs were removed from the pool of journalists who had access to government meetings. This was reported first after the 2003 elections, and the door remained closed throughout 2004. Meanwhile, pro-government newspapers had full access to the same meetings. The same holds true for the Baku-based television stations, as they tape images of Cabinet meetings.

Freedom of information in Azerbaijan is provided for in the Constitution and in media legislation. Unfortunately, government officials are lax in supplying citizens and journalists with requested information. According to the law, all requests for information must be in writing, and answers must be provided within one month. This one-month threshold thwarts the media's ability to report certain information in a timely matter. But even when background information is required for longer-range projects, it is a rare occurrence when information is provided within the period or at all. Even though the media have the right to sue if the information provider defaults, only one case has ever been brought to the Azerbaijani court system. In this case, the courts ruled that the journalist had erred (although no specific reason was given) and threw out the case.

The implications for fact-based reporting are clear. In an interview with one of the mostly widely read opposition newspapers, *Yeni Musavat*, IREX was told: "Since the government will not give us any information, we are forced to add our speculation to the rumors we hear."²

The Azerbaijani government allows anyone to become a journalist. That does not mean that everyone who carries a press card is a reporter, however. Industry experts say there have been nearly 5,000 sets of press credentials issued, but fewer than 3,000 people are actually employed in the industry.

² From a meeting with Gabil Abbasoglu, editor of *Yeni Musavat*, on September 24, 2004

OBJECTIVE 2: PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM

Azerbaijan Objective Score: 1.73 / 4.00

A variety of mechanisms control the quality of the information that the media provide to Azerbaijanis. The government is selective when providing information, the publishers have an agenda, the editors exert their selective views, and the reporters often seek supplementary payment for the articles they write. Journalists' organizations have established a code of ethics, but it is largely ignored—the justification being that journalists are paid poorly and must survive by reporting any way they can.

Sourcing is a problem, especially when the government provides the information. Official spokespersons have yet to learn their craft. They often read from a release prepared by someone else at press conferences and then generally try to avoid answering questions. For their part, reporters in Azerbaijan all too often accept what information they receive without asking many questions.

Self-censorship is endemic to most of the Azerbaijani media. Most broadcast owners, especially those in Baku, are related to government officials or are staunch supporters. Newspapers either support the government or are opposed to it. Independent reporting

Journalism meets professional standards of quality.

PROFESSIONAL JOURNALISM INDICATORS:

- > Reporting is fair, objective, and well sourced.
- > Journalists follow recognized and accepted ethical standards.
- > Journalists and editors do not practice self-censorship.
- > Journalists cover key events and issues.
- > Pay levels for journalists and other media professionals are sufficiently high to discourage corruption.
- > Entertainment programming does not eclipse news and information programming.
- > Technical facilities and equipment for gathering, producing, and distributing news are modern and efficient.
- > Quality niche reporting and programming exists (investigative, economics/business, local, political).

continues to be an elusive goal, with only a handful of outlets producing objective reporting.

The regional broadcasters have several problems that lead to self-censorship. First, they are operating without a license. Second, most are housed in buildings provided by the local Executive Committee. Dunya TV, in Sumgait, for example, is quartered in the State Theater in that city; Gubt TV, in Guba, is in the central library in that city. Third, the EXCOM often metes out harsher punishments than the central government. For example, the publisher of *Janub Khabarlari* was evicted from his office and had his life threatened after publishing an article from an uncorroborated source that accused one of the parliament members of being a drug lord.

The Baku-based broadcasters air very little informational programming. Most schedules consist

Technical capacity varies widely among outlets in Baku and the regional cities. The Baku broadcasters have the equipment necessary to gather, edit, and transmit news. MSI panel members said the main problem is that these stations have a difficult time recognizing what news is, and how to present it professionally.

of music videos, pirated movies, and cartoons. There are prime-time talk shows that offer opinions on current issues, but for the most part they reflect the government's position. Most stations broadcast informational programs during the off hours, usually around midnight, other than the news

programs in the capital city, which are broadcast between 8 pm and 9:30 pm.

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OBJECTIVE 3: PLURALITY OF NEWS SOURCES

Azerbaijan Objective Score: 2.03 / 4.00

The primary source of information in Azerbaijan is television. Newspapers are a secondary source, as evidenced by the decreasing circulation of dailies. The publishers blame poor circulation on the declining economy. However, MSI panelists noted that many people in Baku appear to have enough disposable income and may be indicating instead that the newspapers have failed to provide the information they want to read. The average cost of a daily newspaper is 22 cents, an expense well within the means of many Azerbaijanis. The country's population is nearly 8 million people, but one study estimates total daily newspaper circulation at less than 50,000.³

There are four national television stations, including state broadcaster AZTV. All of these outlets are based in Baku and have a news segment. Regional stations include those in Sumgait, Ganja, Guba, Tovuz, Zagatala, Mingechivir, and Lenkeran. While these outlets struggle to survive, they do present local news for their viewers.

³ "Election, Power, Media" published 2004 by FOJO (sponsored by SWEDA)

Multiple news sources provide citizens with reliable and objective news.

PLURALITY OF NEWS SOURCES INDICATORS:

- > A plurality of affordable public and private news sources (e.g., print, broadcast, Internet) exists.
- > Citizens' access to domestic or international media is not restricted.
- > State or public media reflect the views of the entire political spectrum, are nonpartisan, and serve the public interest.
- > Independent news agencies gather and distribute news for print and broadcast media.
- > Independent broadcast media produce their own news programs.
- > Transparency of media ownership allows consumers to judge objectivity of news; media ownership is not concentrated in a few conglomerates.
- > A broad spectrum of social interests are reflected and represented in the media, including minority-language information sources.

Most prepare their own program, but some (such as Alternative TV, in Ganja) rely upon the Center for Independent Journalists, a professional organization for regional journalists.

As noted, many of the main Baku stations are owned by relatives, friends, and supporters of the president. Media ownership is not subjected to rigorous transparency requirements, but the public is well aware of who owns what.

The government has its own news agency, AzerTaj. Independent of that are Turan, Trend, Azadinform, Sharg, Interfax-Azerbaijan, Olyar, and MPA. However, the prices for a news agency's services are prohibitive for most regional stations, and there is also the problem of distribution in a country where an Internet connection is so costly.

Internet access is limited to the major cities, and there are numerous Internet cafés in Baku. Because connections are expensive and slow, few regional stations have the financial resources to maintain regular access.

Satellite dishes are ubiquitous throughout the capital city. Satellite broadcasts consist of Turkish, Russian, and Iranian programming. ORT and RTR are broadcast terrestrially, providing Russian-language programming. Six daily newspapers also publish in Russian.

OBJECTIVE 4: BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Azerbaijan Objective Score: 1.43 / 4.00

Media outlets are difficult to view as businesses in Azerbaijan. The general director of one of the major national broadcasters declared that the advertising market for television for all of Azerbaijan was \$3 million. He explained that he was quite happy garnering 20 percent of the market, and his numbers were substantiated by the sales director. However, advertising agencies placed the size of the ad market at closer to \$16 million for television alone.

Only one or two newspapers in Azerbaijan could survive without outside financial support, which is mostly provided by the government or the opposition parties. Advertisers tend to ignore the opposition press for fear of offending the government.

A local company conducts television ratings on a regular schedule, but each of the broadcasters on the MSI panel suspected that the organization falsified the data.

Advertising agencies also made this claim, but the

Independent media are well-managed businesses, allowing editorial independence.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT INDICATORS:

- > Media outlets and supporting firms operate as efficient, professional, and profit-generating businesses.
- > Media receive revenue from a multitude of sources.
- > Advertising agencies and related industries support an advertising market.
- > Advertising revenue as a percentage of total revenue is in line with accepted standards at commercial outlets.
- > Independent media do not receive government subsidies.
- > Market research is used to formulate strategic plans, enhance advertising revenue, and tailor products to the needs and interests of audiences.
- > Broadcast ratings and circulation figures are reliably and independently produced.

ratings currently are the only means of gauging the audience.

Television advertising is sold by volume and not through media planning. Media salespeople do not know how to use ratings data to maximize the effect for their clients. According to advertising agencies, salespeople can offer deep discounts off the rate card—often as much as 50 percent.

Self-censorship is also motivated by business interests, which are often more insidious than

ANS TV had been regarded as a source of relatively unbiased news that was neither uniformly supportive nor critical of government policy. However, MSI panelists noted that before the 2003 elections, the ANS organization began to enter into other business sectors, such as publishing, fine jewelry, and recording. As the company diversified, the station's editorial policy changed to one of open support for the government.

any restrictions imposed by the government. ANS TV had been regarded as a source of relatively unbiased news that was neither uniformly supportive nor critical of government policy. However, MSI panelists noted that before the 2003 elections, the ANS organization began to enter into other business sectors, such as publishing, fine jewelry, and recording. As the company diversified, the station's editorial policy changed to one of open support for the government. Although the editorial policy was not changed by direct order of the government, MSI panelists suggested that it did behoove the Mustafayev family, owners of the station, to soften government criticism.

OBJECTIVE 5: SUPPORTING INSTITUTIONS

Azerbaijan Objective Score: 1.98 / 4.00

The most vocal of the media-support groups for the journalists of Azerbaijan is the Media Rights Institute. Now independent of the international donor organization that founded it, this organization has openly criticized the government's lack of communication with the media. MRI has championed

Journalism education falls under the auspices of the Baku State University, but MSI panelists rate the curriculum and the instruction very poorly.

developing legislation that would create public television and has provided advice on pending media legislation. Two other nongovernmental organizations, Yeni Nesil (New

Generation) and the RUH Committee, promote the rights of media professionals through discussions and occasional presentations to parliament.

Until recently there were two press clubs in Baku. One, the International Press Club, was founded with backing and financial support from Ali Hasanov, head of the socio-political department at the office of President Aliyev. The second, the Baku Press Club, chaired by Arif Aliyev (no relation to the president), floundered because of financial mismanagement and was forced to close.

Aflatun Amashov is the chairman of the Press Council, theoretically a forum for the journalism community but one where, once again, the hand of the government can be seen. Hasanov also played a significant role in establishing the Press Council, according to the MSI panel. The council's ruling body is made up of a representative from each publication, and with the governmental

newspapers far outnumbering either those in opposition or the few that are independent, decisions are heavily weighted in favor of the government.

The international media-support organization Internews provides journalism training. Other organizations, including the British Council, the BBC, and the US Embassy, have been active in supporting professional development programs. The Center for Independent Journalists in Ganja, a training center for regional journalists, receives program-development support from IREX.

Journalism education falls under the auspices of the Baku State University, but MSI panelists rate the curriculum and the instruction very poorly. Several other institutions provide journalism education in the regions and in Baku, and it is estimated that there are currently 3,900 students matriculating with an eye toward a career in journalism.

The two main distributors of print material, Qasid and Azermetbuatayimi, remain government controlled. There are several private distributors, but they are very small. The most prominent among them is the Gaya News Distributing Company. Among the publishers, this organization has the best reputation when it comes to returns and reasonable time for remittance.

Supporting institutions function in the professional interests of independent media.

SUPPORTING INSTITUTIONS INDICATORS:

- > Trade associations represent the interests of private media owners and provide member services.
- > Professional associations work to protect journalists' rights.
- > NGOs support free speech and independent media.
- > Quality journalism degree programs that provide substantial practical experience exist.
- > Short-term training and in-service training programs allow journalists to upgrade skills or acquire new skills.
- > Sources of newsprint and printing facilities are private, apolitical, and unrestricted.
- > Channels of media distribution (kiosks, transmitters, Internet) are private, apolitical, and unrestricted.

Panel Participants

Arif Aliyev, chairman, Yeni Nesil journalist organization

Aslan Khalilov, deputy chairman, Azerbaijan National Television and Radio Council

Ilham Safarov, director, Internews-Azerbaijan

Elchin Shikhlinski, publisher, editor-in-chief, *Zerkalo/ Ayna* newspapers

Rovshan Baghirov, program officer, Open Society Institute

Gabil Abbasoglu, acting editor, *Yeni Musavat*

Jahangir Mamamodli, deputy chairman, Press Council of Azerbaijan, professor, department of journalism, Baku State University

Ramiz Husenov, owner and president, Dunya TV

Sahin Hacıyev, editor-in-chief, Turan News Agency

Khadija Ismailyova, grants manager, IREX/Azerbaijan

Moderator

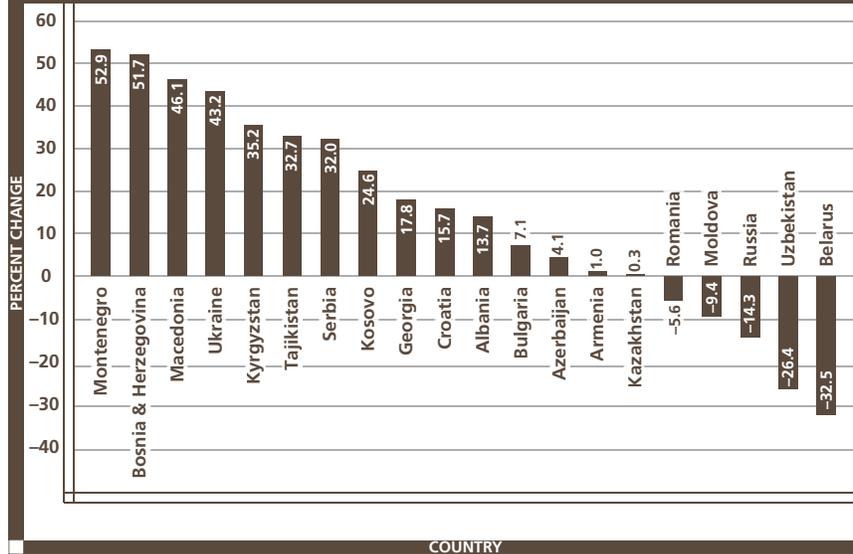
Shahin Abassov, deputy chief of party, IREX/Azerbaijan

AZERBAIJAN AT A GLANCE

GENERAL

- **Population:** 8,239,200 (December 2004) *State Statistics Committee of Azerbaijan*
- **Capital city:** Baku
- **Ethnic groups (% of population):** Azeris 90%, Dagestanis 3.2%, Russians 2.5%, Armenians 2%, other 2.3% *UNDP data*
- **Religions (% of population):** Muslim 93.4%, Russian Orthodox 2.5%, Armenian Orthodox 2.3%, other 1.8% *CIA World Factbook, 2004*
- **Languages (% of population):** Azeri (official language) 89%, Russian 3%, Armenian 2%, other 6% *CIA World Factbook, 2004*
- **GDP:** US\$82.65 billion (2004) *State Statistics Committee of Azerbaijan*
- **GDP/GNI per capita:** \$5,400 (2004) *State Statistics Committee of Azerbaijan*
- **Literacy rate (% of population):** 97% *UNDP data*
- **President or top authority:** President Ilham Aliyev
- **Next scheduled elections:** Parliamentary elections in November 2005; presidential elections in 2008

MSI AVERAGE SCORES—PERCENT CHANGE 2001–2004



MEDIA-SPECIFIC

- **Newspaper circulation statistics (total circulation and largest paper):** The largest paper is *Yeni Musavat*, with a circulation of 6,000 to 7,000 copies per day. Total circulation is about 4,500,000 copies monthly. *Yeni Nasil Journalist Organization*
- **Broadcast ratings (top three ranked stations):** ANS TV, Lider TV, Space TV
- **Number of print outlets, radio stations, television stations:** More than 130 newspapers are regularly issued. There are 11 radio

stations and 16 television stations. *Yeni Nasil Journalist Organization*

- **Annual advertising revenue in media sector:** More than US\$16 million *IREX/WHAM survey, November 2004*
- **Number of Internet users:** More than 400,000 *CIA World Factbook, 2004*
- **Names of news agencies:** Turan, Trend, AzerTAJ (state-run), Azadinform, Sharg, Interfax-Azerbaijan, Olaylar, MPA

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