With reference to you letter of 23 April 2019 and the questionnaire on cultural rights and public spaces the Norwegian Media Authority now enclose our answers to the questionnaire. In our answer we have chosen to explain our mandate and the regulation that we enforce which concerns accessibility.

The Norwegian Media Authority works to ensure that everyone has access to a diversity of television, radio and newspapers across the country. We conduct audits under the current legislation for broadcasting, film and media ownership. We also have the task to guide all sectors of the population to increase media literacy.

In regards to accessibility the Broadcasting Act section 2-19, *Facilitation for people with hearing disabilities in television* states that:

*The Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation’s national television channels must provide closed*

*captioning for the following programmes:*

*a) all fully produced television programmes, and*

*b) live television programmes between 1800 and 2300 hours if this is technically and practically*

*possible.*

*Nationwide commercial television channels with a proportion of more than five per cent of the total*

*television viewers, must provide closed captioning for the following programmes:*

*a) all fully produced television programmes between 1800 and 2300 hours, and*

*b) live television programmes between 1800 and 2300 hours if it is technically and practically*

*possible.*

The legislation aims to ensure that people with a hearing disability are given access to television programmes.

The Government has proposed to include more rules on accessibility in the Broadcasting Act to ensure accessibility for people

In March 2019 the Government sent a Proposition to the Storting regarding several amendments of the Broadcasting Act. There will be more ambitious rules on accessibility of audiovisual content for persons with disabilities. The Government has proposed new rules on interpreting by sign language and audio description, and stricter rules on closed captioning.

If further information is needed, please don’t hesitate to contact us.